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n of the

American Iris Society

Number 300

January 1996



ARILIA ACRES

HOWARD SHOCKEY

IRENE SHOCKEY



CORAL DREAMS

H. Shockey '96 - TB



CAMP FIRE

H. Shockey '96 - TB



ALI KHAN

H. Shockey '96
AB ½ (OGB)



ENERGIZER

H. Shockey '96
AB ½ (OGB)

Please see Advertisement on page 89

**BULLETIN
OF THE
AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY**
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Technical articles reporting the results of research may more appropriately be reported in specialized journals. If, however, the author wishes to publish such a paper in the *Bulletin*, he must submit with the manuscript a list of competent reviewers. The AIS publication advisory committee, in cooperation with the editor of the Bulletin, reserves the right to select a panel from this list, its own reviewers, or a combination of both.

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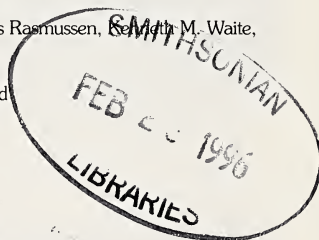
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

A Capitol Idea.....	6
California Is Ready	Jay Hudson8
New <i>Bulletin</i> Editor	9
Native Iris After the Convention	Adele Lawyer.....10
Bennett Jones Wins Foster Memorial Plaque	Marky Smith.....11
A Glossary of Iris Terms	Bill Maryott.....17
Notice to Foreign Hybridizers	Keith Keppel19
Median Fix in '96.....	20
Siberian Pre-Convention Tour—Schmieder Garden	Lynn Markham21
Joe Pye Weed's Garden	Currier McEwen.....23
Smith Garden.....	Shirley Pope24
M.A.S.S. Medley Information	Barbara Schmieder.....25
Two Puzzling Groups of Siberian Irises:	
Biology and Proposed Common Names	Dr. Chandler Fulton.....26
Unity.....	Betty Wilkerson.....36
AIS Judges for 1996	Glenn Corlew37
Keep 'Em Flying	Libby Cross44
1995 JIS Awards	46
High Commendation for 1995.....	47
AIS Liability Insurance	Mike Lowe.....48
1996 Tall Bearded Symposium	Melody Wilhoit.....49
1995 SJI Convention	Peter Weixlmann.....54
Exhibition Committee Report	Lillian Gristwood61
Statement of Ownership	81
AIS Library Contract	84
AIS Condensed Financial Statement	Bonnie Nichols86
AIS Membership Rates	87
World Iris Association	Dave Niswonger.....91
Minutes of Board of Directors' Meeting.....	93

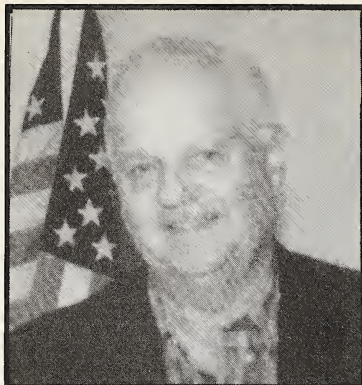
Regular Features

President's Message.....	4	AIS Sales Items	82
International News	12	Iris Slides for Rent	83
Youth Views.....	15	Section Conventions.....	90
Contributions to AISF.....	74	<i>Bulletin</i> Advertising Rates	91
Contribution Information	76	Commercial Directory.....	101
In Memoriam	77	RVPs.....	116
AIS Conventions	80		

Advertisers This Issue

AIS Display Screen.....	91	Keith Keppel	56
Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden...Cover 3		Knee Deep in June	47
Arilian Acres	Cover 2, 89	Pope's Perennials.....	88
Nancy Bartlett.....	90	Rampart Productions.....	73
Bay View Gardens (Ghio).....Cover 4		Sooner State Iris Society.....	45
Cascade Bulb and Seed	20	Stockton Iris Gardens (Feuerstein) .58, 59	
Nancy Harkins	90	Superstition Iris Gardens	55

ON THE COVER: This is a scene from the beautiful M.A.D. Iris Garden of Bob and Mary Dunn. It is one of the gardens that can be visited before the 1996 Convention. (Photo by Mary Dunn)



From the Desk of the President

Dave Niswonger

My hat is off to Claire Barr for three fine years of leadership. Claire continued the effort of the Board to get as much input as possible and to involve as many people as possible in the operation of The American Iris Society. She has made every effort to keep me informed and to prepare me for the task ahead. I'm glad she will still be around as the immediate Past President to give me advice as time progresses.

It is my hope, as we seek to promote the iris, that we will also promote fellowship, knowledge, the acquisition of desired plants, make new friends and in general, have fun. But, in any organization there must be some guidelines as to how the organization should function. In this regard, as issues arise, I have found that following the Rotary Club's Four Way Test is a good way to resolve the solution to a problem. The questions to be asked are these: Is it the TRUTH; Is it fair to all concerned; Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS; Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned? Very often when a matter comes up there are two sides, and if two individuals have opposite opinions, they are usually both right to some degree. I hope we can all work together to make the membership in AIS a delightful experience.

As Claire mentioned in the October Bulletin of 1994, the need for communicating with Irisarians and Iris Societies around the world is becoming more important and rewarding. The atmosphere at the International Symposium on "Gardening with Iris Species" in St. Louis in March, 1995 was electrifying. The Symposium was sponsored by the Missouri Botanical Garden, the Greater St. Louis Iris Society, the Species Group of North America (SIGNA), and the Gateway Chapter of the American Rock Garden Society. Representatives were present from many countries around the world. Outstanding papers were presented from iris experts from around the world, and for me, new information was learned. The spirit of the meeting lifted us to new heights of enjoyment and will be an occasion long remembered by all present.

At the Board meeting in York, AIS was requested by Sergey Loktev, President of the Central Iris Society of Moscow, Russia, to conduct a survey to see what the interest might be in forming a World Iris Association. I agreed to

send a questionnaire to existing Societies interested in irises and to individuals who had demonstrated an extraordinary interest in irises. At this writing, the results are not known. I will be reporting to the AIS Board in Oklahoma City at the fall Board meeting on this matter. The Italian Iris Society has long recommended such an organization and is presently working on the organization of a European Iris Society. We will see how all of this plays out, but whatever the mechanism, it would be great to expand and share the love of the iris the world around.

This winter will be a good time to catch up on our reading about the many types of irises available to us. It will be a good time to catch up on writing our friends and continuing the enjoyment of the iris.



Past President Claire Barr and new President Dave Niswonger. (Photo by Bob Plank)

REGION 14 PRESENTS
THE ANNUAL CONVENTION
OF THE
AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

A CAPITOL IDEA

April 24-28, 1996

CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS

Hyatt Regency Sacramento
1209 "L" Street
Sacramento, Ca 95814 USA

916-443-1234
1-800-233-1234

Rates: \$90.00 Single/Double, \$100.00 Triple, \$110.00 Quad
Book your reservations directly stating the AIS Convention
Cut-off date for blocked rooms is April 2, 1996

Convention Registration Fee: Adults—\$184.00
After March 20, 1995—\$205.00
Youth under 18—\$100.00

Partial Registration Fee: For advanced registrations only

Welcome Dinner or Awards Banquet

Deduct \$20.00 for either

Garden tour-lunch packages deduct—\$70.00

If it is necessary to cancel a registration—notify the registrar

FULL REFUNDS BY MARCH 2nd—50% BY APRIL 2nd

Optional Tours:

Monday April 22: Lake Tahoe overnight trip - \$168 per person, double occupancy.

Tuesday April 23: Nevada City and the Empire Mine - \$41.00

Tuesday April 23: San Francisco - \$49.00

Tuesday April 23: Historical tour of Sacramento/lunch - \$43.50

Wednesday April 24: Lake Tahoe one day - \$45.00

Wednesday April 24: Maryott's Garden, San Jose

Bay View Gardens, Santa Cruz - \$33.50

Thursday April 25: Napa Valley Wine Tour - \$62.00

Friday April 25: Sacramento Tour and Gourmet Lunch - \$35.00

Book Early—All bus trips based on 39 persons minimum

Payment may be made by personal check or MC/Visa

REGISTRATION FORM—1996 AIS CONVENTION

NAMES _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

REGION _____ PHONE _____

_____	ADULT REGISTRATIONS AT \$184.00	\$ _____
_____	LATE ADULT REGISTRATIONS AT \$205.00	\$ _____
_____	YOUTH REGISTRATIONS AT \$100.00	\$ _____
_____	TAHOE OVERNIGHT TOURS AT \$168.00	\$ _____
_____	NEVADA CITY TOURS AT \$41.00	\$ _____
_____	SAN FRANCISCO TOURS AT \$49.00	\$ _____
_____	SACRAMENTO HISTORY TOUR AT \$43.50	\$ _____
_____	LAKE TAHOE ONE DAY TOURS AT \$45.00	\$ _____
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_____	NAPA WINE TOURS AT \$62.00	\$ _____
_____	SACRAMENTO TOUR AT \$35.00	\$ _____
_____	SACRAMENTO TOUR AT \$43.50	\$ _____
	TOTAL	\$ _____

PAYMENT METHOD: CHECK _____ MC _____ VISA _____

CREDIT CARD# _____ EXP DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____

Banquet Choices: (Select for 2 nights) Beef _____ Poultry _____ Fish _____

Please enclose note of special diet or other requirements

Send to: Alan Robbins, Registrar
58 Chaucer Drive
Pleasant Hill, Ca 94523 USA
510-939-1979

Information:
Jay Hudson-Chairman
1-800-757-IRIS (4747)

CALIFORNIA IS READY
1996 AIS CONVENTION
SACRAMENTO—APRIL 24-28, 1996

by Jay Hudson—Chairman

Region 14 is working fast and feverishly to present one of the best times ever at a National Convention. 1996 will not only be a "Capitol Idea" but an affair you won't want to miss.

From the very first day we have lots of excitement planned. Maybe it will be an overnight or one-day trip to Lake Tahoe, one of the most beautiful lakes in the world, with time to sightsee, partake in the passion of gambling, see a show with your lifetime heartthrob, or dine amidst breathtaking views. The trip includes a luncheon cruise aboard the M.S. Dixie to explore the lake. Everyone knows the passions for California wines and the famous Napa Valley. You will travel through the beautiful vineyards on a trip to visit guest gardens in the paradise of Sonoma County. As a special bonus we have included an optional tour of one full day in the wine country visiting a chateau, sampling premium wines, and a gourmet lunch at one of the wineries. San Francisco is everyone's favorite city, so we haven't forgotten a fully escorted tour to sample the sights that you may wish to return to after the convention. Add a tour of the historic Gold Country with lunch served in a real mine, and historical tours of the Sacramento area with lunch on a riverboat or at the Culinary Institute available for those not choosing to participate in the garden tours.

Our optional tour on Wednesday will be the one you won't want to miss. We will board the buses early for a very special trip to San Jose and Maryott's garden. You will be greeted by Bill Maryott and Marilyn Harlow, then go on to see the newest creations of everybody's favorite—Joe Ghio. You will have plenty of time to visit with both hybridizers before returning to Sacramento. You have to know Joe to really appreciate his invitation to you.

On Thursday, April 25th, we will have a bus waiting to shuttle you to the Sacramento garden of Mary and Bob Dunn. Here you will see their latest creations in both beardless and bearded iris. On Friday it's on the buses to the main garden tours to see the thousands of guest iris that have been planted. Friday and Saturday will be spent in the Chico area visiting the gardens of Bill and Cloudia Owen, Bob Annand, Gold Run Iris, and F & L Gardens, and the Napa-Santa Rosa Area to view Betty Ford's garden, Elyse and Edwin Hill's, Jim Begley's and Napa Country Iris. The final day's visits will include Stockton Gardens (at their new home in the former garden of Keith Keppel) to see the creations of the late Jim McWhirter and others; Roris Gardens, the home of Lauer's Flowers in Wilton where Larry has developed some of our finest new varieties, and Scott Reed's Valley Gardens in Stockton. We will have a beef barbecue in Chico, visit a Mexican restaurant for a buffet in Santa Rosa and enjoy a gourmet box lunch under a tent at Roris on the final day. The bus

trips will be very long, but California is large and this will give you time to visit old and new friends or catch up on sleep following the busy activities.

The Convention headquarters will be at the Hyatt Regency Hotel overlooking our State Capitol and Capitol Park. The hotel is known to go out of its way to treat visitors as royalty, and AIS members won't be an exception. All banquets, meetings and other activities will take place at the hotel. The rooms (\$90.00 per night) are spacious and easily handle multiple guests. Your evening strolls through the park, visiting Old Town for dining in historic buildings, joining your friends for a special "Meet the Region 14 Hybridizers" reception amidst our iris planting in the Capitol Park (with hearty appetizers—"light dinner"), and our warm hospitality will add to your remembrance of your stay in Sacramento.

Registration begins Tuesday evening, April 23rd with the first full day of board and section meetings starting Wednesday, April 24th. Our "Welcome to Sacramento" opening banquet will be Thursday evening, followed by the start of garden tours on Friday.

The Redwood Iris Society will be putting on a show Wednesday, April 24th. This will be an opportunity to bring and see varieties exhibited by irisarians from throughout the country. Entries will be accepted Wednesday starting at 8 A.M. Glenn Corlew has put together a panel of judges from around the country. Gigi Hall is in charge of all the section meetings and programs, and also of our boutique, at which you will have the chance to make purchases from a large variety of new and unusual iris-related objects.

A new feature for AIS conventions this year is the availability of making your payments for registration fees and all optional tours by using your **Master Card** or **Visa Card**.

We sincerely hope you will enjoy our state and the events and activities we have planned for you. If you have any registration questions, contact Alan Robbins, Registrar, or Jay Hudson, Chairman. (see registration form)

Please remember this is your convention. The committee will appreciate your registration as early as possible. This allows us to plan and facilitate in the best possible way. Thank you!



NEW BULLETIN EDITOR

Beginning with the July issue of the *Bulletin*, Terry Aitken will be the editor. All information for that issue (with a deadline of April 15, 1996) should be mailed to Terry at 608 N.W. 119th Street, Vancouver, WA 98685. Advertising material should still be sent to Jean Erickson at 4036 Trinity Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95405.

NATIVE IRIS AFTER THE CONVENTION

Adele Lawyer (California)

The Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris will sponsor a one-day field trip to see *Iris hartwegii* immediately following the Convention on Monday, April 29. This will be an informal version of our annual "Expedition" which we have planned so that irisarian visitors to California would have an opportunity to see the *Californicae* in their native habitat.

Unfortunately, we did not plan soon enough to arrange a two-day bus trip to see native areas with which we were familiar. Instead, we will use private or rental cars to visit the Placerville area, which is closer to Sacramento than any other native site.

We tried to find the colonies near Placerville by using Lee Lenz's two publications, *A Revision of the Pacific Coast Irises*, (April 1958), and *Hybridization and Speciation in the Pacific Coast Irises* (June 1959). Although we are still pursuing these leads, we actually located the two colonies we found so far through the efforts of Mike Foster, a Botanist at the El Dorado County Forest Station.

Although we have never seen these specimens in bloom, we have been told that they are the light yellow color typical of most *I. hartwegii*. [There are violet and yellow-orange types. Those of you who attend the Convention may be seeing them at the Annand garden, where some of the wild *hartwegii* which surround their property have been retained to show off in their garden along with the hybridized Pacific Coast iris.

According to Lenz, there are natural hybrids between *I. hartwegii* and *I. macrosiphon* in the vicinity of the Institute of Forest Genetics near Placerville. When we drove to the district in which the Institute was located, there was virtually no virgin land remaining. Apple orchards and Christmas tree farms were everywhere. We went into the Genetics Institute. It was here that Lloyd Austin, Space Age Iris originator and owner of the Rainbow Hybridizing Gardens, worked for 20 years as Director and Senior Geneticist. No one there had ever seen iris in bloom in the neighborhood, but they told us that a generous acreage of Oak Woodland Preserve is fenced off at the periphery of their property. We saw no iris fronds in our brief inspection of this area. Dave Johnson, Biologist at the Institute, will notify us of any indication of their presence.

Although we will continue to look for the *macrosiphon-hartwegii* hybrids, the two colonies which we found have a large number of clumps and are worth seeing.

If you are interested in coming with us on Monday, write to Adele Lawyer, 4333 Oak Hill Road, Oakland, CA. Northern California SPCNI members will have room in their cars for some of you. Rental cars may be necessary for others, and we will be able to see how it will work out after we know how many Convention-goers are interested. There is no charge, and we will be stopping for lunch somewhere.

BENNETT JONES AWARDED THE BIS FOSTER MEMORIAL PLAQUE

The Foster Memorial Plaque, awarded by the British Iris Society for "outstanding contributions to the advancement of the genus *Iris*," has been presented to Bennett Jones for 1995. This outstanding honor is a crown jewel for a spectacular list of awards that Bennett has won over nearly 50 years of hybridizing.

Bennett was born in Colorado and loved gardening as a boy. In the early 40's, he moved to Portland, because of the climate and wide range of plant material that would grow there. After service in the Navy Sea Bees during World War II (he joined the AIS while stationed on Guam in 1944), he returned to Portland, built his present house, and planted his garden, which flourishes today. Influenced by people such as Robert Schreiner, he began hybridizing irises in 1948; and to date has introduced in excess of 100 varieties, spanning the bearded range, from Talls through Borders, Intermediates, Standard and Miniature Dwarfs. For many years, he maintained a small commercial business, personally introducing his award-winning varieties.

A charter member of the AIS Median Iris Society, he has won 10 Median medals so far:

- 7 **Cook Douglas Medals (SDB):** CHERRY GARDEN, COTTON BLOSSOM, GINGERBREAD MAN, KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS, RAIN DANCE, SUN DOLL, and ORANGE TIGER
- 1 **Sass Medal (IB):** PEACHY FACE
- 2 **Knowlton Medals (BB):** CRYSTAL BAY and FRENCHI

At the end of 1995 he has received an additional 16 AIS Awards of Merit for MDB, SDB, IB, BB, and TB.

Bennett has long served The American Iris Society on local, regional, and national levels. He is a Charter member and co-founder of the Greater Portland Iris Society and chairman of two National Conventions held in Portland. He served two terms as Regional Vice President for Region 13 (Oregon-Washington-Alaska), in 1953-55 and 1958-60. He also has been twice a member of The American Iris Society Board of Directors, 1973-1979 and 1991-93. In 1974, he was awarded the AIS *Hybridizers' Medal* and received the AIS *Distinguished Service Medal* in 1979.

The Foster Plaque commemorates the "achievements and assiduous efforts of Sir Michael Foster in collecting and hybridizing irises." It was instituted in 1926 and is the highest award which can be made by the British Iris Society. Bennett is a worthy recipient. The excellence in Standard Dwarf and Intermediate irises we enjoy today is due in very large measure to the award-winning list of cultivars he has produced, as well as myriad seedlings that further our progress.

Marky Smith

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Clarence Mahan

A VISIT TO FRANCE

My robin friend, Hiram Ames from Salt Lake City, recently told our Omicron Hybridizing Robin about his visit to France this past year. I thought *Bulletin* readers would find his description of his visit with the Cayeux's as interesting as I did:

"One highlight of the season was a trip to France and a visit to the enterprise of Jean Cayeux. Jean has retired and is living in Montpellier in the south of France. He has turned the iris garden over to his son Richard. Richard has received an idealistic life style. He lives in an 860-year-old farm house that fairly oozes charm. From the (lawn?) grassy area in front of the house he has a view of unspoiled woodland and meadow leading down to a river. Jean comes up from Montpellier to do the hybridizing and again to help during shipping period. While we were at the farm, Jean was in Florence judging the symposium. What a life!"

A NEW USE FOR IRIS FLORENTINA

In the same letter, Hiram passed on the following item about his trip to Italy in 1986:

"While visiting Florence in '86 I observed many fields of *Iris florentina* in bloom in Tuscany; so I would assume that the orris root we get from Italy would be from that origin. While in Florence, we visited the iris garden of the president of the Italian Wine Association. At his winery he produces gourmet wines for the market in the larger cities in Italy. These wines are not cheap by any standard. I was completely flabbergasted to learn that he put a dried rhizome of *Iris florentina* in each barrel of aging wine. It was the smoothest wine I have ever tasted."

INTERNATIONAL ROBINS

In quoting from the Omicron Hybridizing Robin, I hope *Bulletin* readers are encouraged to join a robin. When people ask me how they can learn more about irises, I always respond that one of the most enjoyable ways is to join one or more iris robins. One of the robins I belong to is the International Median Robin. This robin has as members two New Zealanders, Hilmary Catton and Lynette Black; an Englishwoman, Thelma Taylor; a Frenchman, Jean Peyrard; and four Americans, Lucy Burton, Wendy Roller, Evelyn Jones and myself. Our robin has not only facilitated our learning about median irises in other countries, but also led to wonderful friendships.

If you are an American or overseas member of AIS who would like to join an international robin, let Libby Cross know your interests, and she will try to match up your interests with others in the U.S. and overseas. Each robin

needs a director to make sure the robin keeps moving. The duties are not onerous, and if you are willing to take on this chore let Libby know this also. Libby's address is: 8907 Potts Creek Rd, Covington, VA 24426.

JUDGING AT FLORENCE

Anne Blanco White, past president of the British Iris Society, wrote this interesting item in *BIS Newsletter* No. 104 (Autumn 1995):

"The President fixed me with a beady eye and said, 'You are the only available senior judge who has no plants in the International Concors, and you will go and judge on behalf of Britain.' Meekly, I bowed to necessity and repacked my bags. It was great fun. My fellow judges were two American ladies, Mrs. Hilda Crick and Mrs. Marilyn Harlow, and one Australian man, John Taylor, so he was elected chairman. Graham Grosvenor, also of Australia, was there too and provided much light relief.

"The whole garden was enormously improved since my last visit, and irises were bursting out all over. Mind you, it was nearly the same story again: last time I was there the spring was so late that there were no irises for us to judge. This year the weather relented in time. The first couple of days were gorgeous, and the scent of the flowers was marvelous. Then, on the Wednesday when we went sightseeing in Sienna and Montepulciano, the weather went English. It didn't really rain, but it could have been nicer if it had tried. From then on, it stayed English. In the year that the Kent Group went there, it was really and truly wet, and they had to put plastic bags over their shoes. This does make it a lot easier to walk around on soggy clay. Now the organizers are prepared: a small box had been sitting on a shelf and proved to contain large reserves of small carrier bags which we duly tied on our shoes. Actually, we got the serious judging done in reasonably dry conditions and were safely indoors counting votes when it really rained. We were able to award all the prizes, and they were duly presented in the splendid room at the Palazzo Vecchio before a large audience."

NORTHERN IRELAND

Mrs. Jane Fox of 4 Marlborough Crescent, Carryduff, Belfast BT8 8NP, Northern Ireland is considering forming a Northern Ireland iris group. To assist her in this effort, AIS members might wish to send her copies of their most recent local iris society newsletters or regional publications to show her the various activities which are possible. We wish her every success in this worthy endeavor.

A DEDICATED IRISARIAN IN POLAND

In the April 1995 issue of the *Bulletin* I reported on Lech Komarnicki's book on irises, *Irysy*. This past summer I assisted Dick Sparling in sending a collection of median and dwarf irises to Lech. All that is needed is a photo-sanitary certificate on the outside and inside of the box. The irises were all received promptly and in excellent condition. Since then I have enjoyed a most interesting correspondence with Lech. Lech is exceptionally fluent in

English, which is fortunate considering my total ignorance of the Polish language.

Lech Komarnicki, who is 61 years old, was a professional actor and director, who is now retired. His wife and he have one son who is a musicologist and classical guitarist. He took up gardening as a hobby ten years ago when his wife obtained an allotment of 1/5 acre. He was attracted to irises, and when he came upon an old Schreiner's catalogue in a garden shop, he was hooked. He built up a collection of 300 TBs, 60 IB's, 200+ SDB's, about 50 MDB's, 4 MTB's, 20 Siberians, a few species, Louisianas, Japanese, and some spurias grown from seed sent him by spuria hybrider Charles Jenkins of Scottsdale, AZ. Lech says his efforts with arilbreds have been a trying experience in his climate, but he still has one; and even though the PCI's do not like his cold, wet weather, he is still trying.

Two years ago Lech bought a 7 acre farm but has had to delay moving while he remodeled the house. In the meantime, floods destroyed more than half of his iris collection. Now he plans to devote about 3 acres of his new farm to irises. (Considering the collection he had on 1/5 acre, imagine what is possible on 3 acres!)

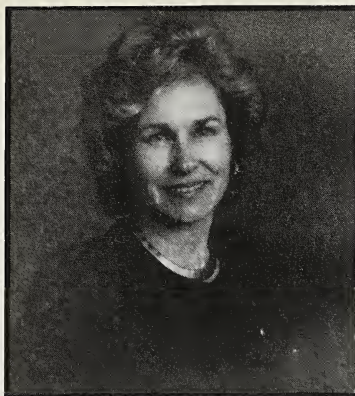
Lech has been doing some hybridizing, and this year he had some SDB seedlings which he thinks might be worthy of registering. (He says: "At last!" a sentiment most iris breeders will identify with.)

Lech says that he has not yet been successful in finding others who are interested in forming a Polish Iris Society, but his efforts to this end continue. He has advised me of an iris group that has been formed by several iris enthusiasts in Silesia in collaboration with growers from the Czech Republic and Slovakia. He believes they have a collection of about 650 TB's and have held iris shows in Silesia. Although there have been iris shows in Warsaw, this apparently has been a minimal effort to date.

I know that AIS members will join me in wishing Lech Komarnicki, a truly dedicated irisarian, every success in his new iris garden and in every other undertaking.



The 4 U.S. members of the International Median Robin: Clarence Mahan, Wendy Roller, Lucy Burton, Evelyn Jones.



YOUTH VIEWS

Jean E. Morris

NEW ESSAY TOPIC FOR 1996

"If you were an iris, which one would you be? And why?" This is the topic for the 1996 Ackerman Youth Essay Contest. Essays should be written in 500 words or less and mailed by March 15th to Catherine Long Gates, 3033 Jefferson, Boulder, CO 80304. The youth who writes the winning essay will win \$100.

We are grateful for a donation by Mrs. Robert Thrun of Lansing, Michigan, which makes this cash prize possible. The contest is named in memory of Mrs. Thrun's parents, Jay and Marian Ackerman. Thanks, also, to the AIS Foundation for administering the contest each year.

We are always delighted to hear from youth members of all ages. If you are inexperienced at writing an essay, try these four easy steps. (1) Decide which iris you would be and write down a few reasons why. (2) Develop a paragraph about each of these reasons. This will be the middle of your essay. (3) Add a short introduction paragraph at the very beginning and a short conclusion paragraph at the very end of your essay. (4) Have an adult check your spelling and grammar before you recopy or type your final, corrected version.

Reading your *AIS Youth Member Handbook* may help you remember those things which make a good looking iris.

Although parents are encouraged to proofread youth essays, we ask you to resist the urge to interfere in any way with your youth's creative efforts.

This year's topic gives youth members a chance to express their iris opinions while having fun and competing for \$100 extra cash. So pretend you are an iris. Fluff up those standards, stretch out those falls and send Catherine your essay right away. Good luck to all!

AIS MEMBERSHIP CONTEST — YOUTH CATEGORY

We finally had a winner in the special Youth Category of the AIS Membership Contest in 1995. He is Kevin Gormley of Cedar Hill, Missouri. Kevin was presented a certificate and a handsome plaque at the AIS Convention in York, Pennsylvania.

To enter the contest, remember two things. All AIS dues must be sent to AIS Membership Secretary, Marilyn Harlow, P.O. Box 8455, San Jose, CA 95155. But Marilyn does not tabulate your contest points. That is done by the Membership Contest Chairman, Lynda Miller. So you must send her a note or postcard listing the name of each AIS member you sign up along with the type of membership the person has (youth, single, dual, or life) and if the membership is annual or triennial. Do this right away, as soon as you sign up anyone. Membership rates are always listed in the *AIS Bulletins*, so keep the current one on hand when you recruit new members. Lynda Miller's address is 3167 East U.S. 224, Ossian, IN 46777.

Although this process sounds complicated, it is easy once you understand what to do. We congratulate Kevin for following the rules and being persistent in reporting his points last year. (See the April 95 *AIS Bulletin*, page 29, for rules and point scales, but send your new member names and data to Lynda Miller as she is the new Membership Contest Chairman.)

We encourage youth members to enter the Membership Contest. You will be adding new AIS members and competing in the contest at the same time. This year, let's try to give Kevin Gormley some competition.

REMINDER

Nominations for the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement are due by January 31, so please mail them right away to Jean E. Morris, 682 Huntley Heights Dr., Ballwin, MO 63021. Please read the rules and guidelines for the contest in "Youth Views" of the October 95 *AIS Bulletin*. It takes only a few minutes to encourage an AIS youth by writing a nomination, so please do your part for your region's young people.



One-year old Heath Rice is taken on an iris tour by big brother Nicolas.

A GLOSSARY OF IRIS TERMS

Bill Maryott (California)

During the course of our Spring bloom season, we have many visitors to our garden. In any given year, there are many who are new to iris and who would like to have information about iris which we long-time irisarians might call basic. Your Bulletin Editor was asked about such an article, and at a recent meeting, prevailed upon me to provide the information, to which I readily agreed. To begin:

Standards: the upright top three petals of the iris

Falls: the lower three petals of the iris

Spathes: the papery, eventually brown, covering of the emerging bud. This papery covering eventually covers the ovary of the iris as the flower emerges from bud stage.

Stem: also called the stalk, that which holds the flower upright. May be straight or gently S-curved.

Fan of leaves: exactly that—each fan of leaves means there is one rhizome underneath that fan

Rhizome: brownish, potato-looking, fleshy root

Increase: new plants which begin as white waxy looking buttons on the sides of the rhizome. Known in some regions as toes.

There you have the iris from top to bottom. There is quite a bit in between:

Style arm: the three style arms rest above the anthers. They may be the same color as the iris or may be contrasting colors.

Style crest: the upward curving of the top of the style arm. The style crest may be plain, serrated or fringed.

Stigmatic lip: the lip like petal under the style crest which receives the pollen

Anther: stiff, tiny stem like aperture under the style arm

Pollen: powder-like grains which form on the anther

Beards: the fuzzy, caterpillar like hairs on the falls. May be thick or thin, self colors or contrasting

Self: refers to an iris with all petals of one color

Amoena: white, or tinted white standards, colored falls. Pronounced “a-me-nah”

Reverse amoena: darker standards and white or tinted white falls

Bicolor: two different colors

Bitone: two tones of the same color

Blend: combination of two or more colors

Plicata: (also called plic) stitched, stippled or banded color in contrast to the base color

Substance: thickness of petals

Texture: finish or sheen of the petals

Variegata: yellow or near-yellow standards with deeper falls color, which may be either varied or solid tones of brown or purple. Variegatas are normally yellow over maroon.

Luminata: pale yellow or near white style arms with pale white or yellow veining on falls

Glaciata: a pale color from plic breeding—no plic marking

Ruffles: waving and fluting of the iris petals; some irises more heavily ruffled than others

Lace: lightly laced irises have serrated edges; heavy lace gives a crinkled, serrated effect which may affect the opening of the petals

Fluting: gentle dips and rises in the petal edges

Hafts: the parts of the iris falls to either side of the tops of the beards, also called shoulders

Haft marks: veining on the hafts; sometimes considered unsightly

Spur: a short side stem which may or may not be near the top of the stem or stalk

Branch: any branch which appears off the side of the main stem or stalk

Midline stripe: a stripe of usually contrasting color down the middle of the falls

Halo: a rim of color around the petals, usually contrasting to the main color, not found on plics

Wire-edge: a minute rim of color around the edges of the petals

Peppering: found on plics—as if you shook a pepper shaker of contrasting color over an iris with a yellow or white background color

Stitching: may go with the above, as if one had button-hole stitched around the edges of the falls or all of the petals. “Stitches” may be so close together as to look like a thin or thick solid rim around the petals

Mid-rib: the stiffened mid-section of the standards which hold them upright

MDB: miniature dwarf bearded iris, usually from 2-8 inches tall

SDB: standard dwarf bearded iris, usually from 8-15 inches tall

IB: intermediate bearded, usually from 16-28 inches tall

BB: border bearded, usually up to 28 inches tall

MTB: miniature tall bearded, usually 16-26 inches tall

TB: tall bearded, stalks over 28” tall, perhaps as tall as 40-42 inches

Beardless irises: Siberian, Spuria, Louisiana, Japanese, Pacific Coast Native, Species

AR: aril iris, oncocyclus and regelia are grouped together under this term

If all the above isn't enough to keep your head reeling, then consider the terms in the iris catalogs:

Name of the iris: that name chosen by the hybridizer, approved by the AIS registrar

Hybridizer: the person who made the iris. This name immediately follows that of the iris.

Year of introduction: the year which immediately follows the name of the hybridizer

Year of registration: the year in which the hybridizer registers the iris with the AIS Registrar. May or may not be the same as the year of introduction.

E-M-L: Early, Mid-season and Late. By adding the letter V, we may have terms such as VE which would mean very early, etc. These terms may be used as a guide. It indicates the time of season the iris bloomed in the hybridizer's garden.

RE: this term generally indicates rebloom at some time other than Spring

Height: the height in inches as designated by the hybridizer

After the above comes the description of the flower, usually in very "flowery" terms, the more to catch your eye with and possibly your pocketbook. Best taken with several grains of salt. Some, but very few, hybridizers tell it like it really is.

Other letters you will find in conjunction with irises may have to do with awards the iris has won. How do irises win awards? Each year The American Iris Society Judges vote a ballot. The ballots are tabulated and awards given. None of the AIS judges are infallible and popularity of the hybridizer or catalogs pictures sometimes play a great part in awards given. The best way to determine if these award winners are truly worthy of growing is by growing them yourself! HC: highly commended; HM: honorable mention; AM: award of merit; Dykes medal: highest award an iris may win.

NOTICE TO FOREIGN HYBRIDIZERS

Under certain circumstances, your originations may be eligible for American Iris Society awards. In order to qualify, the following points must be met:

(1) The variety must have been registered with The American Iris Society. (Note: This is normally done through your national society's registrar.)

(2) The variety must be introduced (offered for sale for the first time) by one or more North American sellers; during that first sale/shipping season it must not be offered for sale elsewhere.*

(3) The hybridizer must furnish The American Iris Society Registrar with a letter stating that the conditions set forth in (2) have been met, giving the name of the variety, the name of the seller(s), and the year of introduction. A form for this purpose may be obtained from the Registrar's office if desired. The letter (or form) may be submitted through your national registrar or sent directly to the AIS Registrar.

If the hybridizer is unable to submit the necessary letter or form, it may be furnished by his survivor, heir, or local assignee.

Canadian irises, being of North American origin, are automatically eligible for American Iris Society Awards.

*A variety is ineligible if sold and shipped during the same calendar year elsewhere in the Northern Hemisphere; or prior to spring/summer of the same calendar year (catalogues September or later for shipment December or later) in the Southern Hemisphere.

MEDIAN FIX IN '96

**Sponsored by The Greater Portland Iris Society
April 30-May 1, 1996
Portland, Oregon**

The Pacific Northwest has become a hub of activity in the area of Median irises. The Greater Portland Iris Society is, therefore, very pleased to host the Median Iris Convention for 1996.

Over 600 guest irises are flourishing in six gardens—Aitkens, Keith Keppel, Ludis, Plotners, Schreinners and Silverbergs, plus a special iris journey from the past into the future in the garden of Bennett and Evelyn Jones.

This event is planned to "piggyback" at the end of the AIS National convention in Sacramento, allowing time at its conclusion (April 28th) to drive/fly to Portland. There will be two gardens toured April 30th, with buses leaving from the convention hotel (after lunch on your own) at about 1:00 p.m. Dinner will be on your own that evening, followed by Judges' Training and a median iris auction. May 1st will be a tour of the other five gardens, followed by a closing banquet.

Convention headquarters will be:

Monarch Hotel
12566 SE 93rd Avenue
Clackamas, OR 97015
(503) 652-1515, or toll free (800) 492-8700

Rates are \$65.00, single or double, and you will need to mention the Iris Convention to get this rate. The hotel is conveniently located just off I-205 across from Clackamas Town Center and has a free shuttle from the Portland airport for those flying in.

Registration fee is \$70.00. Mail your check payable to the Greater Portland Iris Society (GPIS) to registrar Jim Craig, 16325 SW 113th Avenue, Tigard, OR 97224—phone (503) 639-8009. These must be postmarked no later than April 1, 1996. (Any cancellations or refunds must also be postmarked no later than April 1st.)

Cascade Velvet

1995 Cal-Sib introduction. Rich purple lavender flowers on 22" scapes, beautiful foliage, easy to grow and no disease problems. Large clumps \$8 or 3/\$21 plus \$4 postage.

Cascade Bulb & Seed, P.O. Box 271, Scotts Mills, OR 97375

SIBERIAN PRE-CONVENTION TOUR— THE SCHMIEDER GARDEN

Lynn Markham (Massachusetts)

The tour day, June 10, was made to order for garden visiting, clear and crisp as only a perfect New England spring day can be, and the guest irises in the Convention beds looked to be enjoying the conditions as much as the visitors were.

Visiting the Schmieder garden is a pleasure any time—what's special is the way each new iris bed fits so well into the rustic landscape that you'd swear it grew that way unbidden. The guest plantings were no exception, with the largest display garden laid out in a semi-formal setting between rows of dwarf fruit trees, and the smaller beds, free-form in shape, following the meandering paths that lead into the main garden.

It was just shy of peak Siberian bloom here, and unfortunately the creams and yellows which have made such progress in recent years were in tantalizing bud. Hollingworth, Schafer/Sacks and McEwen seedling numbers promised much to be seen in this color range a bit later in the season.

There was no lack of bloom, though, particularly in the blue to purple range, where there's a bonanza of quality. One of the first things that set me on my ear was a large, vigorous clump of LEE'S BLUE (Bauer-Coble '94), a full blue with lime-green signals surrounded by a white ray pattern. It has full, deeply waved and lilting form and was screaming for attention. Nearby, just opening, was Hollingworth's OVER IN GLORYLAND (1993), an intense royal purple with gold signals. "Elegance" is the word. His CORONATION ANTHEM (1990), in full, glorious bloom, a mid blue-violet edged lighter, with lime "UU" signals and white ray pattern, was also stunning. Another demanding attention in this color group was Schafer/Sacks' TRIM THE VELVET (1995), its deeply ruffled, smoothly finished deep purple blossoms trimmed with a neat white edge and carried on very tall, straight stalks. It has a commanding presence. And finally, there was Currier McEwen's seedling T-85/97 (4), a large flower, very intense deep blue of medium height, with absolutely beautiful form.

I had seen slides of John White's NEAT TRICK (1997) at last winter's hybridizers' meeting and found the purple-on-white streaked pattern fascinating, but the real thing was even better. The markings closely resemble the bearded BATIK, and I wonder if the same genetic factors are at work. In any case, this is a very striking small-flowered Siberian, a true color break and to boot, an attractive plant with very slightly curled foliage.

Perhaps the tallest seedling in the garden was Chandler Fulton's 4Q3, a marbled blue with more intense blue shoulders and old gold signals. Because of the color intensity at the heart of the flower and because of the great height of the stalks emerging from a dense clump of vigorous foliage, this seems an ideal accent plant for the garden, even though it is fairly simplistic in form. I

personally applaud the Siberian breeders and shapers of policy for continuing to appreciate *all* forms; it makes for a wonderful diversity of types.

I was hard-pressed to choose favorites among the many fine Schafer/Sacks seedlings displayed here. No two were alike; all were excellent. Since I must say something besides "WOW," I'll mention first S90-60-6, an intriguing blend of turquoise, blue and lavender, with antique gold signals and sumptuous ruffling. The color is marbled, almost kaleidoscopic, and endlessly fascinating. Two "minis" were outstanding—S87-15-20, with neat blue-lavender flowers, and S89-13-1, lighter, bluer and intensely ruffled. Both of these are diminutive all over, at perhaps 20" in height—a most desirable type! A still different look was achieved with S87-6-2, a pale true blue with strong turquoise midribs on standards, falls and styles. This is the medium height range, with flower size to match. Another "marbled" flower was S90-38-2, a blend of blue, rose and wine; S90-47-3 was a strong red-magenta, its broad falls waved and liting, with large white signals. Any of these would be welcome in my garden!

Bauer-Coble's SPRINKLES intrigued me. It's a pinky lavender near self with the color applied in closely packed dots—well named! Jim Copeland's 88-12, a light rosy lavender bitone tinged reddish at the shoulder, with petals rimmed near white, was lovely and different—the flowers almost appeared cup-shaped. Hollingworth's 91Y1A1 also pleased—a reddish purple with cupped standards and deeply waved falls wire-edged in white. I particularly liked the dense clump of almost grassy foliage. Hal Stahly's 93-20, a creamy white with light gold signals, was one of the few in this color class which deigned to open on this day—it's a plant of medium stature with smallish flowers and quite attractive. Another cream which I've seen before and liked very much is Ken Waite's WS-U-W; it was one of the few first-year plants here and not in bloom, but doing very well and promising a show for the Convention.

Of course I've seen and loved Sarah Tiffney's SNOW PRINCE (1990) many times before. Its dainty off-white blossoms are carried on tall, slim stalks centered in dense clumps of delicate foliage, and it's the epitome of charm. But it's about to get a run for its money from LITTLE BLUE SPARKLER (Tiffney 1996), tinier, shorter and perfect, with lavender standards texture-veined deeper, and cream falls veined and edged deep lavender. It wasn't in bloom in the garden, but Shirley Pope had a stalk in a vase and it was drawing quite a crowd! Hope to see this in full regalia next spring.

Not to forget there were "SPEC" and "SPEC-X" guests as well, LIMBO (Ellis 1988) a pseudacorus/versicolor hybrid with erect, rosy standards over rosy purple striped falls, with elongated styles whose crests matched the petal color, was very attractive. So was Tamberg/Niswonger CS2-93, a CAL-SIB in light gold with elongated, deeper gold signals. And ILLINI FOUNTAIN (S. Varner '94), an *I. lactea* seedling, had dainty lavender flowers on very attractive, fine foliage. This was seen not on the tour day, but back in May, but it is a Convention guest and deserves the mention!

It's a good thing I have neither the space nor the conditions to start breeding beardless irises—this array was all too tempting! The conventioners in '96 are in for a real treat.

JOE PYE WEED'S GARDEN OF MARTIN SCHAFER AND JANET SACKS

Currier McEwen (Maine)

The home and gardens of Jan Sacks and Marty Schafer in Carlisle, Massachusetts, are in a lovely area of rolling hills quite removed from the bustle of city life. The weather was perfect, not too warm to make a light sweater uncomfortable and with the sun just right for judging colors. We all went immediately down the long gentle slope of their property to the iris beds on the level land below. I would judge that the Siberian irises were still at peak bloom. Marty and Jan had clearly taken particular pains with the Siberians sent as guests for the 1996 Siberian Iris Convention. Some were in bloom, but their story must wait until next year. I devoted my attention to Marty's and Jan's new seedlings. They line out some 2,000 seedlings yearly in rows 120 feet long. There were twelve such rows for the seedlings Marty showed me. The masses of flowers make a breathtaking sight. Going down the rows to evaluate the seedlings from individual crosses is a truly inspiring experience.

Marty and Jan work together in planning and in care of the garden, but Marty makes the crosses. He has worked only with diploids with particular interest in blues, pinks and yellows. He and Jan started with Bee Warburton's excellent named varieties and seedlings and introduced a number for her. Starting their own breeding line, they have named a number such as BRIDAL JIG, DEVIL'S DREAM, ROARING JELLY (named after a dance band Marty once played in), and SAILOR'S FANCY.

At this visit, however, I devoted the limited time available to their newer seedlings still under number. I cannot mention very many but must discuss a few that illustrate Marty's hybridizing goals. First, among the pure blues I was greatly impressed by his S92-54-10, a lovely blue with lighter blue centers enlivened by deeper blue veins and surrounded by quarter inch darker blue edges. The much lighter blue standards and styles provide lovely contrast. The darker blue edging presents a pattern I have not previously seen.

Marty has been working, as indeed many of us have, to obtain a true blue. His S90-13-1 is a lovely rather dark blue self (except for a nice white signal) that comes close although I suspect it still leaves need for a bit more progress.

Still in the blue range, but very different, are the blues Marty has mixed with yellow. Starting some years ago he started this line, of which I may cite his S90-48-3 as an example. It is a rather grayed blue with yellow showing through and yellow signals and wire-type edging. Certainly, this color pattern takes some getting use to by us old timers, but it represents a most promising new departure.

Among his efforts at obtaining pinks, Marty has used yellow also. His S92-38-15 is a new approach to pink; a lovely lavender pink (close to RHS 82D) with darker veins, standards that are still closer to pink and pink tipped styles.

The signals are yellow instead of white, but to my surprise, this actually adds to the interest of the flower. The round form is exquisite.

Marty has a number of approaches to pinkish red. One, for which I failed to record the number, matches RHS 82B with darker veins. It has lovely ruffled round form and beautifully tufted style arms at the center. Certainly 82B is not red, but it is different from the usual wine reds and perhaps can help toward true red.

I must mention especially Marty's yellow seedlings. He has many and most are so good that it is hard to select ones to mention. His S92-119-15 is a yellow of lovely round, ruffled form, more yellow than BUTTER AND SUGAR, a nicer flower, and the plant has branches. In addition, there is perhaps a trace of yellow in the standards and the style arms have light yellow midribs and tufts.

A final flower I must mention is an approach to the 6 fall Siberians that Ho Shidara has been developing in Japan. The falls are yellow lightening toward the edge. The standards are in the position of falls and have 1/4" "yellow streaks" extending from base to tip. The style arms and tufts are light yellow.

I have been able to touch on only a tiny fraction of Marty and Jan's outstanding garden, but I trust I have been able to show the treats in store for those who visit this garden during the Siberian-Species Iris Convention in Massachusetts in June, 1996.

Finally, as an old time hybridizer, I want to say what a happy experience it is for me to see the promises of new Siberian irises that lie ahead. The newer hybridizers like Marty Schafer, Chandler Fulton and others here in Region 1 and around the country are thinking ahead in an exciting new way. You can imagine my pleasure at seeing Marty's new uses of BUTTER AND SUGAR. I have thought of it only as an approach to yellow. I had not imagined what might come of its uses with other colors.

THE SMITH GARDENS

Shirley Pope (Maine)

Steve Smith's guest irises are planted on the banks of an intermittent stream running through his property. Winding paths among the guest irises will give next year's convention goers easy access to these irises. A small waterfall and a stone bridge crossing the stream add to the beauty of this garden.

There are several perennial gardens in addition to the guest gardens. You will enjoy your bus ride in the rural countryside of Orange, Massachusetts.

M.A.S.S. MEDLEY

Barbara Schmieder (Massachusetts)

Iris Society of Massachusetts (ISM) is sponsoring a joint SPECIES and SIBERIAN CONVENTION June 14-16, 1996, in Westford, MA. The theme is M.A.S.S. (MAD ABOUT SPECIES AND SIBERIANS) MEDLEY and we have lots of interesting events planned, among them: a species and Siberian show on Friday, with one hour of Judges' Training offered; tours of 5 gardens having guest plantings and one special one without guests; Garden Judging offered in a hybridizer's garden; and a silent auction of guest plants to benefit both SIGNA and THE SOCIETY FOR SIBERIAN IRISES. Region 1 previewed three of the gardens this past June and following are some comments about these gardens.

In addition to these gardens, you'll also see the gardens of Chandler and Elaine Lai Fulton, Darrell and Karen Probst, and Kathy and Curt Marble. I guarantee that you'll see a lot of irises, make new friends, and have a great time!

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

CONVENTION DATES: June 14, 15, 16, 1996.

REGISTRATION FEE: \$90 until April 15, after that, \$110.

FEE INCLUDES: Friday and Saturday night dinners, Saturday and Sunday Continental breakfast, Saturday and Sunday lunches, bus transportation to gardens.

REGISTRAR: Marty Schafer, 337 Action Street, Carlisle, MA 01741, Tel. (508) 371-0173. Make checks payable to ISM (IRIS SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS). Registration is limited to 200 people, register early!

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M.A.S.S. MEDLEY

Mad About Species and Siberians

June 14, 15, and 16, 1996

Westford, Massachusetts

TWO PUZZLING GROUPS OF SIBERIAN IRISES: BIOLOGY AND PROPOSED COMMON NAMES

Dr. Chandler Fulton (Massachusetts)

Summary. The attributes of 28- and 40-chromosome Siberian irises are considered, including a discussion of the nature of the difference in chromosome number and its consequences. As common names for the 28- and 40-chromosome groups, respectively, "robust" and "gracile" Siberians are suggested.

The garden qualities of Siberian irises are being increasingly recognized as hybridizers come up with marked improvements. The increasing popularity is well illustrated by two awards at the 1994 AIS Convention in Oregon—tall bearded capital of the world. Lorena Reid's 1992 Sino-Siberian DOTTED LINE was second runner-up for The President's Cup, while Robert Hollingworth's 1994 28-chromosome tetraploid Siberian STRAWBERRY FAIR won the Franklin Cook Memorial Cup as the finest iris hybridized outside the region.

As these worthy plants become more widely used, a problem of nomenclature becomes an increasing nuisance. There are two major groups of Siberian irises, represented well by STRAWBERRY FAIR and DOTTED LINE, and when we wish to refer to these groups there are no satisfactory common names. I began thinking about this two years ago when Dr. Currier McEwen inquired as to suggestions for common names in conjunction with the preparation of his new book on Siberian irises, which since has matured into a marvelous book that is in press with Timber Press. At the time of Dr. McEwen's inquiry neither I nor any of his other consultants came up with satisfactory names for the groups. New names are proposed here, descriptive names tested by observation of hundreds of beautifully grown Siberian irises of each group at the Oregon Convention, as well as in Laurie's Garden in Oregon.

The two groups—A scientific classification of these irises is summarized in the Table. Lenz (1976) has split the series *Sibiricae* into two groups, the subseries *Sibiricae* with nominally 28 chromosomes in most cells of the plant and the subseries *Chrysographes* with nominally 40 chromosomes. Most of these species are illustrated in Dr. McEwen's forthcoming book.

Most of the modern cultivars of Siberian irises are hybrids that contain a mixture of *I. sanguinea* and *I. sibirica*, each of which has a diploid set of 28 chromosomes. The *I. typhifolia* that Dr. James Waddick recently brought back from China is a similar iris; in hybridizer's gardens its genes are currently being introduced into the *sanguinea/sibirica* gene pool. *I. typhifolia* is very fertile with this group, and thus is presumed to have 28 chromosomes.

There also are many tetraploids derived from subseries *Sibiricae* that are now in commerce. These tetraploids are presumed to have 56 chromosomes, although I do not believe the chromosomes of any tetraploid Siberian iris have

actually been examined or counted. Using the current names, one refers to these irises as "tetraploid 28-chromosome Siberians."

The *Chrysographes* group of Siberian irises all have about 40 chromosomes. They are readily interfertile within the group and cross-pollinate in gardens. Some of the species, especially *I. chrysographes* and *I. forrestii*, tend to be short-lived plants in many gardens, and are frequently replaced by new seedlings. Because of their promiscuous cross-fertilization and limited longevity, there probably are few pure representatives of the 40-chromosome species available outside of their wild habitats.

It may surprise some readers to find three species listed as uncertain in the Table. *I. bulleyana* has long been recognized as a questionable species since when self-pollinated it produces a variety of forms (Dykes, 1924). Mathews (1981) suggests it may be a natural hybrid of *I. forrestii* and *I. chrysographes*. These two putative parents and *I. bulleyana* do overlap their ranges in China. The finding of *I. bulleyana* growing wild in several places in China (Waddick and Zhao, 1992) does not settle the question. Species of the related series *Californicae* interbreed frequently in nature (Lenz, 1959), and it is likely there are natural hybrids of the *Chrysographes* subseries in the wild. It remains unclear whether *I. bulleyana* is a bona fide species or a naturally occurring hybrid. Uncertainty about this species is also discussed in Dr. McEwen's book. Another of the species, *I. dykesii*, was found in Dykes' garden after his death and has never been found in the wild; it probably is a garden hybrid that was never represented by a species in nature. The last uncertain species, *I. phragemitetorum*, is known only as a dried herbarium specimen. The swamp where it was collected in 1916 is now Kunming city in China; one hopes it will be found again but it may be extinct (Waddick and Zhao, 1992). Although *I. phragemitetorum* is often listed among the 40-chromosome species, some favor placement among the 28-chromosome species (Davidson, 1974). We may never know unless it is rediscovered.

In general the *Chrysographes* are species of wet meadows that send down deep roots; they require constant moisture and prefer cool summers. In the United States they do not grow well in the southern states, and their success in gardens is more restricted than the 28-chromosome Siberians. Where the 40-chromosome Siberians prosper, as they do so well in Oregon and Washington, they are strikingly beautiful, distinctive plants. Lovely cultivars such as DOTTED LINE have been introduced, some that cobloom with the 28-chromosome hybrids and others that bloom later to extend the season. Some are tall. In Reid's garden her handsome 1989 ENBEE DEEAYCH ('NBDH'; a newer broader delavayi hybrid) grows to over five feet (≈ 1.5 meters) tall. Even orange 40-chromosome cultivars are coming, led by Reid's 1994 ANTICIPATING ORANGE, a color break potentially as exciting as was McEwen's 1977 yellow amoena BUTTER AND SUGAR among the 28-chromosome Siberians. Where the subseries *Chrysographes* can be grown well, the plants provide a range of garden subjects from the dainty yellow *I. forrestii* blooming in the front of the border, to a specimen plant such as DOTTED LINE in the middle, blooming with 28-chromosome Siberians, to a stand of the vigorous, stately ENBEE DEEAYCH at the back of the border.

In addition, the 40-chromosome Siberians are crossed to the distinctive series *Californicae* irises, which also happen to have 40 chromosomes, to produce lovely Cal-Sibes with their intricate patterns. Although the Cal-Sibes are basically sterile, they are garden-worthy plants which combine the traits of both parents and do well over a broader climate range than either the *Californicae* or the *Chrysographes*.

Hybrids have been formed between subseries *Sibiricae* and *Chrysographes*. Since the chromosome numbers are so different, it is not surprising that such hybrids are difficult to achieve and most appear to be sterile. The most famous and best authenticated of these hybrids, bred by Dr. William McGarvey, is FORETELL (1970, *I. forrestii* x SUPER EGO). This hybrid does well in gardens where 28-chromosome Siberians grow. It is not completely sterile. Such intersubseries hybrids are discussed later in the essay.

Current common names—The subseries names *Sibiricae* and *Chrysographes* are correct taxonomic designations of the plants, but scarcely lend themselves to common names. *Sibiricae* is a subset of all Siberians and *Chrysographes*, which means “golden writing” based on the gold line down the center of the dark fall of the species *I. chrysographes*, does not provide a euphonious, easily remembered common name. A Committee of the Society of Siberian Irises was formed in 1972 to consider possible names (Ad hoc Committee, 1973; McEwen, 1974 and 1977).

One set of common names, often used, is “garden Siberians” for the 28-chromosome series and “Sino-Siberians” for the *Chrysographes*. Although cultivars of the subseries *Sibiricae* are more common in gardens than those of the *Chrysographes*, both are wonderful garden subjects where they can be grown. Most but not all of both subseries come from China. Garden and Sino- are unsatisfactory names, and the Committee recommended against their use (Ad hoc Committee, 1973). They continue to be used, however, for lack of any other satisfactory names.

Another set of common names frequently used is based on the diploid chromosome numbers known for certain members of the subseries: the 28- and 40-chromosome Siberians. After deliberation, the Committee accepted these names as convenient “shorthand” (Ad hoc Committee, 1973) and noted that “it will be best to continue for the present to designate the two groups by their chromosome numbers” even though it was also noted that “These terms, while accurate, are awkward to use and have little significance for the average grower” (McEwen, 1974). At first a decision about a name was deferred until a taxonomic decision about the groups could be made (McEwen, 1974), but after the subseries were designated (Lenz, 1976) the Committee decided to accept 28- and 40-chromosome Siberian irises as the “best way” to designate the subseries in common garden terms (McEwen, 1977). I believe the names based on chromosome number suffer from serious defects. In many cases, the chromosome numbers are not known. Even if one presumes 28 and 40 chromosomes as the normal diploid numbers for the subseries, how does one refer to tetraploids, or intersubseries hybrids—does one *imagine* a tetraploid garden Siberian has 56 chromosomes or that FORETELL has 34 chromosomes? Finally, the names are “technical” and certainly do not suggest lovely garden subjects, any more than most members of our species would enjoy being

called the 46-chromosome apes, even though that is an accurate description. Twenty years after these awkward names were accepted, many of us who work with the irises are still using other names or seeking new ones.

The current names—garden or 28-chromosome Siberians and Sino-siberians or 40-chromosome Siberians—are clearly unsatisfactory. We need useful common names. The two subseries are an important horticultural distinction. Although members of the two subseries look superficially similar, the anticipated success of crosses and conditions for successful cultivation vary, as do places in the world where each subseries can be grown well. We need comfortable names to refer to the distinct groups that have different culture requirements and genetic compatibilities. With the current non-names, confusion is growing. In the registrations, Siberians are listed with various designations including SIB, SIB (dip.), SIB (28 chrom.), SIB (28 chrom. dip.), SIB (tet.), SIB (28 chrom. tet.), SIB (56 chrom.), SIB (56 chrom. tet.), SINO-SIB, SIB (40 chrom.), and SIB (40 chrom. diploid). Although the subseries and ploidy of most of these irises can be deduced in context, the confusion will only get worse as more intersubseries and other hybrids are introduced—imagine a description of a SIB ((28-chrom. x 40-chrom.), tet. x 80-chrom., tet.).

A more serious problem arises in the evaluation of these irises for awards. In the *AIS 1994 Official Ballot* for judges, the lovely 40-chromosome Siberian CASCADE CREME (Reid, 1991), registered as a SINO-SIB, is listed as a species. Although its parents are not known, it almost certainly is not the offspring of a single species of 40-chromosome Siberian. It is a Siberian iris, and according to the *Handbook for Judges and Show Officials* (1985, page B-69) all the Siberians—the two subseries and their hybrids—should be judged as Siberians. I heartily agree; they should all be considered the Siberian irises that they are. CASCADE CREME and the other 40-chromosome hybrids are Siberian irises. Perhaps CASCADE CREME ended up as a “species” because SINO-SIB is not a “proper” name. In any case, it will help to avoid such confusion if we can agree on consistent and accepted names for the two groups of Siberians. In addition, perhaps all registrations of Siberian irises should have the form ‘SIB (qualifiers).’

Proposed names—The challenge to finding proper descriptive names for the two subseries is that they are so similar. Their similarity is, in fact, great enough that one systematist, Mathew (1981), argues that the division of the series into two subseries “may well be correct, based on their cytology, but morphologically it is not easy to justify.” Mathew rejects the subseries. Classification is always subjective, but I am convinced that the marked difference in chromosome number and intersubseries fertility indicates a major difference in their history and warrants the two subseries. The separation is a logical distinction, and should be retained. In addition, it is an important enough distinction that we need common names to refer to the two types.

Although individual cultivars of both subseries offer exceptions to almost any generalization, most 40-chromosome Siberians show obvious differences from most 28-chromosome Siberians. The Committee that searched for common names found no consistent differences in the foliage, bloomstalks, or flowers. They found four specific differences between 28- and 40-chromosome

Siberians, respectively: the spathes are short vs. long, the flanges at the base of the falls are small vs. large, the tops of the seed capsules are blunt vs. spiked, and the seed capsules themselves are hard vs. fragile (McEwen, 1974). None of these differences lend themselves to a common name. While I concur with the Committee and with Mathew (1981) and others that there is considerable overlap in morphology between the *Sibiricae* and the *Chrysographes* subseries, there is a clear overall distinction between the plants, easily noted in Oregon by Dr. Elaine Lai Fulton and me when many plants of each group could be studied together. The 40-chromosome Siberians tend to have narrower foliage that tends to flare out at the top in a fountain form, like ornamental grass, and looks very attractive in the garden. Although some 28-chromosome Siberians have similar grass-like foliage, more often it is wider bladed, erect, and more sword-like. The bloomstalks of 40-chromosome Siberians tend to be thinner, more “wiry,” and sinuous, while the 28-chromosome Siberian bloomstalks tend to be thicker, straighter, and more vertical. Both are elegant for Ikebana flower arrangements, but they lend themselves to different designs. Because of these features, the common name *gracile* Siberians is suggested for the 40-chromosome subseries and *robust* Siberians for the 28-chromosome subseries.

These two words are used in the context of these dictionary definitions: *gracile* in the sense of “gracefully slender or slight” and *robust* as “strongly formed or constructed” (*Webster’s Third New International Dictionary*). *Gracile* is pronounced gras’il, with the ‘a’ as in add and the ‘i’ as in possible. Neither term implies any weakness or coarseness of any part of the plant. Both imply plants that can be attractive and vigorous in their proper environments. There is precedent for the use of *gracile* and *robust* in a completely different comparison in relation to the fossil history of humans. There are two kinds of fossil australopithecines, called *gracile* and *robust*, found in Africa, beginning about four million years ago and extending until nearly one million years ago. Most paleontologists believe it likely we are descended from the *gracile* line. Yet our *gracile* lineage encompasses robust giants such as 350 pound (160 kilogram) football players and 7 feet 2 inch (2.2 meter) basketball players, as well as my petite wife.

Robust and *gracile* accurately describe distinctive characteristics of many 28- and 40-chromosome Siberians, respectively. Of course there are exceptions because of the overlapping phenotypes, but the terms work well as descriptors of the subseries for many of the Siberian species and cultivars, tall and short. The terms are not perfect since there are ‘*gracile*’ robust Siberians, such as FLIGHT OF BUTTERFLIES and *I. typhifolia*, and ‘*robust*’ *gracile* Siberians, such as ENBEE DEEAYCH and *I. delavayi*. Probably no simple terms based on overall morphology can distinguish the two subseries perfectly, since their attributes overlap, but these adjectives suggest the essence of the two groups. Since the difference is subtle, I was pleased to find that Dr. Waddick has made a similar observation. In comparing the 28- and 40-chromosome Siberians, he noted that the 28-chromosome species “will overpower and outgrow these generally smaller, somewhat more delicate species” (Waddick and Zhao, 1992). On the other hand, Lorena Reid (personal communication) points out that under her growing conditions *I. delavayi* and its

hybrids “could hold their own even interpolated with the 28s.” Although any distinction is of necessity imperfect, simple terms based on overall morphological traits are more felicitous and informative than imaginary chromosome numbers or terms based incorrectly on garden use or country of origin. They allow sensible descriptions of tetraploids, as e.g., a tetraploid robust Siberian or, in the Registrations, a SIB (robust tet.), and of hybrids, such as a SIB (gracile-robust hybrid).

The suggested names are imperfect discriminators, but it seems unlikely we can find precise terms that morphologically distinguish all 28- and 40-chromosome Siberians. One appealing feature of the proposed names is that gracile and robust are sufficiently vague to accommodate the overlap of phenotypes. We are not all gracile creatures, yet gracile is our group. Nor does a name have to be perfectly accurate to be useful; after all few Siberian irises come from Siberia.

The Chromosomes—In order to understand the nature of these two groups of Siberian irises, it is important to understand the probable meaning of the difference in chromosome number. An explanation of this difference also provides an opportunity to show how much more pleasant it is to read about these irises with the proposed common names. Although the plants and flowers of gracile and robust Siberians are different at their extremes, in many respects they are morphologically quite similar and all modern taxonomists have concurred in grouping these irises in a single series. It is likely, in fact, that they are more similar genetically than their striking difference in chromosome number might suggest. Comparative studies using modern techniques to evaluate the similarity of their DNA sequences, the arrangement of their genes, and the organization of their chromosomes are needed. In the interim it may be helpful to speculate on how these two subseries can be so similar and yet have such different chromosome numbers.

It is first necessary to consider what a chromosome represents. As we all know, all of an organism's genetic material is contained in long strands of DNA; the goal of the “human genome project” is to sequence the 2.9×10^9 base pairs of DNA that make up our genetic material. In any organism the DNA strands are packed into chromosomes. Each chromosome contains a single continuous strand of DNA with one specialized region, called the “centromere,” and two ends, called “telomeres.” The genetic information that makes up the “genome” is packaged into a series of chromosomes. The genome of diploid robust Siberians is packaged in 14 pairs of chromosomes, or a total of 28.

In the formation of germ cells or gametes, meiotic cell divisions reduce the chromosome number by half (in a diploid, from $2n$ to n ; in a tetraploid, from $4n$ to $2n$). In order for this reduction division to occur, each chromosome finds its matching partner and they pair together or “synapse,” usually beginning at the telomeres. After synapsis each pair separates in an orderly fashion, with one member of each pair going to each of the two opposite poles. The separation depends on the centromeres. We can imagine the two chromosomes of a pair zipping up along each other by their similarity, and then a pair of tiny hands taking a hold of the centromeres and pulling one of each pair to the opposite pole. If every chromosome has a mate and everything goes well

in this fancy dance of the chromosomes, a gamete ends up with one of each pair. When two gametes fuse, the diploid (or tetraploid) chromosome number is restored.

It is proposed that the Siberian irises, both gracile and robust, as well as the Pacific coast irises, share a relatively recent common ancestry. The members of the series *Californicae* somehow got across the Pacific ocean or the Bering Strait and have evolved separately from the series *Sibiricae*. Sometime subsequent to this separation an ancestor of the series *Sibiricae* had an "accident" of some kind. One can imagine possibilities for that accident, but we have no idea what really might have happened. Out of that accident eventually came two reproductively isolated surviving species, fertile within themselves, one with 28 chromosomes and the other with 40 chromosomes. These became the ancestors of the robust and gracile Siberians, and have evolved separately even since. Since the Pacific coast irises and the gracile Siberians still happen to share the same chromosome number, even though they are more different in other respects than are the two groups of Siberians, it is tempting to suggest that the ancestor of all these groups had 40 chromosomes, but that is not necessarily so.

The chromosome number changed by events that probably involved some or all of the following: polyploidy possibly followed by loss of some "extra" chromosomes, fusion of some chromosomes, breakage of others with exchange of parts from one chromosome to another (called "translocations"), perhaps some parts even turned around (called "inversions"). Other types of rearrangements may also have occurred. Most such rearrangements are lethal; obviously the ancestors of the modern robust and gracile Siberians were among the survivors.

This view of what might have happened has two interesting consequences:

First, it is likely that the two groups of Siberians still share most of their DNA sequences (their "genomes"), but these DNA strands are somewhat rearranged on the $n = 14$ and $n = 20$ chromosomes. One might imagine genetic cutting and pasting such that in the end the same overall text is there but rearranged into different chromosomes. One can think of this as if different paragraphs in a book with 20 chapters were rearranged into a new book with 14 chapters—a glitch in the word processor of evolution. The overall similarity of the paragraphs (DNA sequence) explains why the robust and gracile Siberian irises share so many properties.

Second, the rearranged chromosomes mean that in a hybrid of a gracile and a robust Siberian, viable gametes will be very rare. When the chromosomes attempt to pair, they find it difficult or impossible to find matches since the text is mixed up. When the chromosomes separate, those that did not pair travel at random toward one pole or the other, producing gametes that are missing chromosomes or that have extra chromosomes. Some chromosomes that pair probably end up with multiple centromeres, and become even more confused when it is time to take them apart. Pieces get broken and lost. Although such events have not been methodically studied in Siberian irises, they have been studied in other plants. It is easy to understand that with such an extensive rearrangement as must have occurred to produce species with $n = 14$ and 20 chromosomes, in a hybrid of the two

subseries very few gametes would be formed with a sufficiently complete set of chromosomes to be able to fuse with another gamete and form a living offspring.

Other factors may influence the fertility of hybrids between gracile and robust Siberians, but the difference in chromosome number is certainly sufficient to make a horrible mess. Even in the case of the Pacific coast irises and the gracile Siberians, which both happen to have 40 chromosomes, there undoubtedly are numerous differences in the arrangement of parts of the DNA strands on the chromosomes that make proper sorting of the chromosomes during gamete formation unlikely, and thus render Cal-Sibes virtually sterile. In this case it is not the chromosome number, but the arrangement of parts, that matters.

A much studied example of such rearrangements of chromosomes is found among the great apes and people. We have a total of 46 chromosomes, and share 99% of our DNA sequence with the 48 chromosomes of chimpanzees and gorillas (Yunis and Parish, 1982). A fusion of two chromosomes into one accounts for the reduction from 24 pairs in the great apes to 23 in humans. In spite of the overall similarity in chromosome number and in DNA sequence, some of the other chromosomes also show major rearrangements. These differences in *arrangement* are likely to play a significant role in causing the marked differences between people and apes (King and Wilson, 1975). It would be wonderful to have such specific information for irises.

The differences in chromosome number and arrangement make crossing the gracile and robust Siberians, or the gracile Siberians to the Pacific coast irises, a challenge. Such initial crosses have been made for a long time, going back at least to such registered examples—all done in England—as CHRYSOBIRICA (Perry, 1923, a cross of *I. chrysographes* x *I. sibirica*), SIBULLEYANA (Wallace, R. 1936, a putative cross of *I. sibirica* x *I. bulleyana* that was never introduced), and MARGOT HOLMES (Perry, 1927, a Cal-Sibe from *I. chrysographes* x *I. douglasiana* that won the Dykes Medal in Britain in 1927). In order to verify his deductions about the relationships of species, in his pioneering work Dykes (1924) made many crosses between what we now know were gracile and robust Siberians. In general, as he and others have pointed out, the offspring of such crosses are sterile.

There are known exceptions to the general sterility of such hybrids. Tomas Tamberg has made tetraploid Cal-Sibes that have at least some fertility (STARTING CALSIBE, 1983; TIMPCALS, R. 1993). One can imagine fertile tetraploids from gracile x robust Siberian crosses. In addition, FORETELL shows some fertility, at least with diploid robust Siberians. Its originator, William McGarvey (1975) reported “three generations of progeny” from FORETELL, but none of these offspring were introduced. Currier McEwen obtained several hybrids using FORETELL as one parent and a robust Siberian such as RUFFLED VELVET as the other; none of these offspring have been fertile and none have been introduced (McEwen, personal communication). Lorena Reid independently made hybrids of gracile x robust Siberians, and from these obtained a second generation; none of these were introduced (Reid, personal communication). The first second generation hybrid from a gracile x robust Siberian has just been introduced, Steve Varner’s 1994

SWEET SUCCESS, which is the offspring of a cross of the robust Siberian BELFAST X FORETELL.

Probably FORETELL or any other non-tetraploid intersubseries hybrids that have shown even limited fertility have managed to reassort and reorganize their chromosomes to produce at least some viable gametes, and presumably no longer have the $14 + 20 = 34$ chromosomes that were originally introduced into the hybrid. In this sense, a plant like FORETELL is the making of a new species of Siberian iris! It is worth pursuing the intersubseries crosses started by these pioneers in the hope of establishing fertile lines of gracile-robust Siberian hybrids, either diploid or tetraploid. Such fertile hybrids eventually could bring into Siberians with a robust habit features like the all yellow flowers, the oranges and reds, the bold signal patterns that are found in the gracile Siberians. Such hybrids could also extend the Siberian iris season.

We have much to learn about these chromosome games, but it is clear that in the near future both gracile and robust Siberians will continue to be increasingly used in gardens, as hybrids within their subseries and probably in intersubseries hybrids. We all need a sensible way to refer to the plants. It is hoped others may find the common names proposed here pleasing and useful.

Acknowledgment. I am grateful to Currier McEwen, Lorena Reid, Sarah Tiffney and Jean Witt for helpful suggestions.

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Classification of the Siberian Irises

Classification	Species	Chr. no.* (2n =)
<i>Genus Iris</i>		
Subgenus <i>Limniris</i> , the beardless or apogon irises		
Section <i>Limniris</i>		
Series <i>Sibiricae</i> , the siberian irises		
Subseries <i>Sibiricae</i>		
	<i>I. sanguinea</i>	28
	<i>I. sibirica</i>	28
	<i>I. typhifolia</i>	??
Subseries <i>Chrysographes</i>		
	<i>I. chrysographes</i>	40
	<i>I. clarkei</i>	40
	<i>I. delavayi</i>	40
	<i>I. forrestii</i>	40
	<i>I. wilsonii</i>	40
Uncertain species of siberian irises		
	<i>I. bulleyana</i>	40
	<i>I. dykesii</i>	??
	<i>I. phragmitetorum</i>	??
Series <i>Californicae</i> , the Pacific coast irises		
		40

*Chromosome numbers for diploid cells are from Randolph (1959). Although additional counts have been made for some of the species, I am unaware of any counts for species listed as "??", or for any tetraploids, inter-series or inter-subseries hybrids.



Editorial Note: Chandler Fulton has given me the privilege of reading his article. As Chairman of the old Ad Hoc Committee on Nomenclature of the Society for Siberian Irises which Chandler refers to in his article, I particularly appreciate the opportunity to comment on it.

After the discovery that there were two groups of Siberian irises with different chromosome numbers, many articles regarding the two types were written in the late 1960s and 70s with different names being used by the various authors. With the purpose of establishing a standard set of names, the Society for Siberian Irises appointed an ad hoc committee to study the problem and make recommendations. Some of the Committee's observations were useful to Lee Lenz in his taxonomic division of series *sibiricae* subseries *chrysographes* which the Committee enthusiastically endorse. The Committee also devoted two years of effort to select possible terms for common garden use. In the final report in 1977, the Committee decided that, although far from ideal, names based on the chromosome numbers were the best to use. This was accepted by the Society for Siberian Irises and hence the 28 chromosome group and the 40 chromosome group are the currently recommended names.

As Chandler has pointed out, some other names are also still being used and terms based on chromosome numbers are now complicated by the existence of the tetraploid and inter-subseries hybrids with different numbers of chromosomes. Chandler's article prompts the question whether after 18 years since the 1977 report, it might be useful to reconsider the names for common garden use.

Dr. Currier McEwen

UNITY

Betty Wilkerson (Kentucky)

Is there one thing all of the membership of The American Iris Society can agree on? I think so. We all like irises: old or new, black or white, ruffled or tailored, short or tall, reblooming or non reblooming. In some type, shape, and form we all like irises.

Diversity is one of the things that unifies the group. If I told you I would like you to join the AIS but you could only grow blue TBs that are 45 inches tall, have 12 buds, and bloom only in the fall would you join? How many members do you think we would get?

If you grow new irises, does that mean you can't grow old irises? If you like ruffled irises, does that mean you cannot appreciate tailored irises? If you like white irises, can you also like black irises? If you like TBs, can you also like medians? If you like irises in the garden, can you also like irises on the show bench? YES.

Show bench judging and garden judging can be compatible. The show bench is the promotional aspect of the iris world. Iris shows create interest within the communities. Many people started growing irises because they saw them in a show. There is a social aspect of the show, for exhibitors and judges alike, that cannot be denied. There are people, judges included, who would not grow irises if they could not show them. Surely they have that right.

The AIS garden awards are a direct product of garden judging. According to the handbook "all evaluations must be made of irises seen growing and in bloom in gardens, over a period of time, in different locations and under varying climatic conditions." We MUST NOT vote our ballots from catalogs, show benches, or anything other than garden observations. It seems we have a problem with garden judging. Not enough judges are doing it. If the awards ballots are to reflect the true picture of healthy irises throughout the nation, judges MUST visit gardens and VOTE their ballots!

Most of us travel several miles to judge a show. A visit to a garden, on the way home from a show, is a good way to break up the trip. A listing of area gardens, complete with addresses, could be placed in our regional publications. Remember to take a notebook and pencil to record your findings so they may be transferred to the ballot at a later time. Don't wait to be invited to a particular garden. The iris is a beautiful flower . . . let us unify, find solutions, and enjoy!

THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

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 AM Margaret Connally
 G Sue Copeland
 G Evelyn Davenport
 AM Marjorie W. Deaton
 G Jane C. Desmond
 AM T. A. Gilliam
 G Scott W. Grant
 G Clara Henderson
 AM J. W. Kuykendall, Jr.
 AM Mrs. J. W. Kuykendall, Jr.
 AM Joe M. Langdon
 AM Mrs. Joe M. Langdon
 AM Nan Elizabeth Miles
 AM Walter Moores
 G Edith Mitchell Nevels

AM Donald R. Saxton
 AM Mrs. Donald R. Saxton
 AM Sarah Scruggs
 AM Kristen Tidmore
 AM Mrs. R. P. Van
 Valkenburgh

OVERSEAS

Australia

M John O. Baldwin
 M Leslie J. Donnell
 M Graeme Grosvenor
 M Robert Raabe
 G John Taylor

Belgium

G Koen Engelen

England

G C. E. C. Bartlett
 E H. R. Jeffs
 M G. H. Preston
 M N. K. Scopes

France

M Jean Cayeux
 M Dr. Jean Segui

Germany

G Rainer Zeh

Italy

G Anne Barbetti
 G Augusto Bianco
 G Fabio Bigazzi
 G Margaret Cameron
 Longo
 G Maria Carla Monaco
 G Valeria Romoli Pallesi
 M Prof. Gian Luigi Sani
 G Doralisa Ravenni Santi

Japan

M Akira Horinaka

KEEP 'EM FLYING

(or Getting the Most Enjoyment from Your Round Robin)

Libby Cross (Virginia)

Each Robin, when it takes off, includes (or should include) two things besides the letters that the members write. One is the ROUTE LIST, which lists the names, addresses and phone numbers of the members, in the order of rotation that they receive the Robin.

The other item always included is a copy of the ROBIN RULES. At one time there were official blue cards available with the rules on one side, and room for the route list on the other. I haven't been able to track down any new cards for a long time. I don't know what other Robin Directors are doing about this situation, but I finally settled on typing up two separate sheets for List and Rules. It is much easier to keep the route List up to date, without scrapping the Rules.

It is these Rules on which I would like to expound. Following them is the first step in full enjoyment of the Robins.

Rule No. 1: *The Robin is always sent by First Class Mail.* This frequently calls for more than one stamp! All the wonderful pictures and articles that the members share with one another adds much to the interest of the Robin . . . they also add weight, but surely the extra postage is worthwhile. I know in this day and age when machines chew on the mail before they forward it to its destination, it occasionally arrives in a somewhat mangled condition, but "*FIRST CLASS*" is pretty good insurance that it will eventually arrive!

Rule No. 2: *Each member has 7-10 days from the time the Robin arrives, to contribute a new letter, and send it on its way.* Abiding by this will keep the Robin flying, and the news in it fresh. Some Directors allow a shorter time, and others give more leeway. A lot depends on the size of the Robin. One with a full complement of ten members should not be allowed more than the 10 days, but one with only half that number could well be allowed a two week stay at any one stop.

There is one *exception* to this rule: If the Robin arrives at your nest around the first of December, *HOLD IT TILL JANUARY FIRST!* It is too easy for it to get lost in the Christmas mail rush.

There are two other "sub-rules" to this one, too. (a.) If you expect to be away when the Robin is due to arrive, write or call the person just ahead of you on the route list and ask to be passed over for that flight. And (b.) if the Robin arrives and you have no time to write a letter for emergency reasons, mail it on to the next member and *drop a postcard to the director noting that you had to skip that flight.*

Rule No. 3 is self-explanatory: *Make a copy of the Route List* and keep it where you can refer to it. *KEEP IT UP TO DATE!* It's good reference and can save difficulties in flight.

Rule No. 4: Be sure to *put your name, address, and dates "in" and "out"* on the first page of your letter, and your name and page number on subsequent pages. Later, if excerpts are made, this helps the excerpter mightily, and gives you credit. Place and date are crucial for garden excerpts.

Rule No. 5 (Last but not least . . . in fact, it is more important than most of the other rules): *Do not forget to send the director a courtesy post card* telling when, and to whom the Robin was sent. *Be sure to include the name and/or the number of the Robin.* Some directors handle more than one Robin, and some members belong to more than one Robin. This enables the director to track the flight at all times and dig it out when it gets stalled.

In the "Unwritten Laws Department a few other Do's and Don't's should also be considered. *Try not to stray too far from the subject of Irises.* We all like to have little personal notes in the Robins, but don't get too personal! Feel free to write separate personal letters to any of the other members you wish to if you want to go into more details about your fishing trip, or the quilt show you attended, or how smart your little Ichabod is, or . . . well, you get the idea. *Avoid controversial subjects.* Politics and religion usually come under that heading."

In case you wonder, I've been "laying down the law" so to speak, because over the past few years, I have been a member of, and/or director of quite a few Robins and all of them have the list of rules in them, but I've often wondered how many members have actually READ THEM! When I've had to write to all the members of one Robin when it was overdue, because none of them had sent a courtesy card, and when someone in another Robin goes on for three or four pages about her job and never mentions iris, and another sends large batches of photos of all the aunts and uncles in the family (none of whom have anything to do with irises) . . . it makes you think doesn't it?

THE SOONER STATE IRIS SOCIETY

is pleased to announce the 17th annual

POLLEN DAUBERS' SEMINAR

February 23-24, 1996

featuring

DORMAN HAYMON

Louisiana Iris Hybridizer from Duson (Lafayette), Louisiana

Our speaker will present a program to the Society on Friday night, February 23rd, following a 6:30 p.m. pot luck dinner. Pollen Daubers' sessions will be from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 24th. No charge for the Friday night program. \$20.00 per person for the hybridizing seminar on Saturday. For assistance, contact Dr. William E. Jones; 2312 Butternut Place; Edmond, OK 73013; (405) 478-3498.

All events will be held at the Will Rogers Garden Center, 3400 N.W. 36th, Oklahoma City.

1995 JAPANESE IRIS AWARDS

W. A. PAYNE MEDAL

CASCADE CREST (J. T. Aitken) 51 votes

(runners up)

FRECKLED GEISHA (L. Reid) 44 votes

JAPANESE PINWHEEL (C. McEwen) 41 votes

KALAMAZOO (A. Hazzard) 16 votes

AWARD OF MERIT JI

votes

37 CAPANEUS (S. Innerst)

34 JOY PETERS (W.
Ackerman)

votes

33 GEISHA OBI (L. Rich)

30 ORIENTAL CLASSIC
(C. McEwen)

(runners up)

23 MICHIO (A. Miller)

23 DOUBLE FIRST
(C. McEwen)

22 LITTLE SNOWMAN

(A. Vogt)

HONORABLE MENTION JI

55 DIOMEDES (S. Innerst)

39 PICOTEE PRINCESS
(L. Reid)

32 JACIVA (C. Harris)

30 ELECTRIC GLOW
(J. T. Aitken)

HIGH COMMENDATION JI

BAUER/COBLE

11 ROSEWATER

HARRIS, C.

5 91 JA 3

McEWEN, C.

5 T690/44

REID, L.

16 9J 55 16D



CASCADE CREST

**1995 PAYNE
MEDAL WINNER**

(Photo by Terry Aitken)

HIGH COMMENDATION 1995

votes

TALL BEARDED

BLACK, P.

(8) A 26 C

INNERST, S.

(8) 3942-5

(7) 4201-2

(6) 3428-5

(6) 3911-5

(5) 4014-5

(5) 4026-6

JONES, B.

(10) 88-5 (SPANISH
FIREBALL)

SIBERIAN

BAUER/COBLE

(8) S 85-L-1

BORDER BEARDED

KEPPEL, K.

(5) 89-153-B

INTERMEDIATE BEARDED

JONES, E.

(26) I-89-15

KEPPEL, K.

(8) 91-60-A (PROTOCOL)

NICHOLS, H.

(10) 9292-B

SMITH, MARKY

(21) 90-28-C

WILLOTT, A. & D.

(7) W-93-44

(6) W-93-45

votes

KEPPEL, K.

(8) 89-126-C

(5) 88-96-A

MARKHAM, L.

(6) 87-4G2

MULLIN, R.

(6) 84-455 M (PRETTY IS)

SCHREINER'S

(23) CC-748-B

SHOOP, G.

(6) 89-23-1

SMITH, M.

(7) 90-54-A

(6) 90-45-D

STANDARD DWARF BEARDED

WILLOTT, A. & D.

(7) W-93-9

(6) W-92-119

MINIATURE DWARF BEARDED

PROBST, R.

(6) MINI WABASH

WYSS, B.

(5) 887-1

MINIATURE TALL BEARDED

WILLOTT, A. & D.

(7) W-91-158

(7) W-94-73

(6) W-91-23

Knee-Deep In June

708 North 10th - St. Joseph, Mo. 64501

Emanations (Jameson 96) M-L 34"\$35.00

1-90 Edith Wolford x Mary D

Golden standards faintly shot violet blue . . . the falls, shimmering - changing medium violet blue with a lacy quarter to half inch brown rim . . . beards gold and violet

Whipped Honey (Jameson 96) M-L 36"\$35.00

1-90-A Step Nicely x Easter Lace

Golden honey shades pervade the standards and the edges of the broad lavender orchid falls . . . the beards mingle the colors . . . and then there is lace, outrageous lace.

CATALOG \$1.00

AIS LIABILITY INSURANCE

The American Iris Society now holds a Commercial General Liability policy underwritten by Travelers Insurance Co. This coverage is designed to protect the personal assets of AIS as well as the assets of local Chapters, Regions, Sections and the National Society in the event of a claim arising during Society functions.

The policy limits of interest to AIS members as well as the assets of local Chapters, Regions, Sections and the National Society in the event of a claim arising during Society functions.

The policy limits of interest to AIS members arranging Iris shows, Iris sales, meetings and tours are as follows: \$1,000,000 each occurrence, a \$1,000,000 General Aggregate limit and a \$5,000 Medical expense limit. Medical Payment liability covers bodily injury to claimants but is not designed to provide coverage to the insured (AIS members). Thus the Medical expense limit does not cover AIS members.

All AIS members are covered whether or not their iris society is an Affiliated Society. The coverage extended to Affiliated AIS Chapters is a cogent reason for seeking such affiliation. It is also a strong selling point for encouraging non-AIS members to join AIS since Club affiliation with AIS *does not offer any coverage to non-AIS members*.

When AIS members are arranging events with malls, hotels, etc., insurance coverage should not be mentioned until/unless it becomes a requirement for the staging of the event. When the mall requests proof of liability coverage, tell them a Certificate of Insurance will be provided. If the site management requires that they be added as an additional insured, this can be done at a small additional charge.

You may request Certificates of Insurance or the addition of other entities as an additional insured from:

Leslie Signore
Rodman Insurance Agency
75 Wells Avenue
Newton Centre, MA 02159
Tel: 617-527-3000 Fax: 617-965-2947

The following information must be furnished: date of the event, location, name and address of the entity requiring the Certificate and whether this entity needs to be shown as an additional insured.

In case of an accident AIS members should never admit liability or discuss insurance coverage. Any member doing so may be held personally liable. In the event of bodily injury offer assistance and simple first aid, if you have these skills. Remember that malls, bus companies, hotels, etc. have liability coverage which is primary. The AIS Insurance comes into play only when site management limits are exhausted.

1996 TALL BEARDED SYMPOSIUM

1995 rankings have been adjusted due to 3 omissions from the 1995 symposium.

1995	1996	Votes	Variety	Hybridizer	Year	Season	Height	Color
2	1	756	Silverado	Schreiners	'87	M	38"	lt. blue
1	2	740	Dusky Challenger	Schreiners	'86	M-L	39"	dark purple
3	3	602	Jesse's Song	B. Williamson	'83	M	36"	wht. vio. plic
5	4	586	Beverly Sills	B. Hager	'79	M	36"	pink
10	5	532	Honky Tonk Blues	Schreiners	'88	M	37"	hyacinth blue
4	6	506	Edith Wolford	B. Hager	'86	M	40"	yellow/violet
6	7	490	Titan's Glory	Schreiners	'81	E-M	37"	dark violet
7	8	477	Vanity	B. Hager	'75	E-L	36"	pink
15	9	453	Lady Friend	J. Ghio	'81	VE-E	38"	garnet red
8	10	441	Stepping Out	Schreiners	'64	M-L	38"	wht. vio. plic
12	11	424	Mary Frances	L. Gault	'73	M	38"	blue-orchid
9	12	393	Laced Cotton	Schreiners	'80	M-L	34"	white
17	13	375	Before The Storm	S. Innerst	'89	M	36"	black
13	14	363	Going My Way	J. Gibson	'72	M	37"	wht., vio. plic
14	15	354	Victoria Falls	Schreiners	'77	E-L	40"	blue, wht. spot
16	16	343	Breakers	Schreiners	'86	M	37"	med. blue
11	17	340	Song Of Norway	W. Luhn	'79	M-L	38"	powder blue
20	18	321	Mystique	J. Ghio	'75	E-L	36"	lt. blue, F. dpr.
—	19	318	Hello Darkness	Schreiners	'92	E-M	37"	purple-black
23	20	308	Thornbird	M. Byers	'89	M	35"	ecru-tn, vio.horn
25	21	307	Champaign Elegance	D. Niswonger	'87	M	33"	pink & apricot
18	22	296	Superstition	Schreiners	'77	M	36"	maroon black

1995	1996	Votes	Variety	Hybridizer	Year	Season	Height	Color
28	23	264	Ringo	G. Shoop	'79	M	38"	white, grape edge
19	24	261	Supreme Sultan	Schreiners	'88	M-L	40"	yellow & crimson
29	25	258	Immortality	L. Zurbrigg	'84	M&Re	30"	white
41	26	255	Conjunction	M. Byers	'89	M-L	36"	wht. & vio., wht. horn
22	27	252	Anna Belle Babson	B. Hager	'85	M	36"	bright pink
27	27	252	Sky Hooks	M. Osborne	'80	M	36"	soft yell. vio. horn
30	29	251	Skating Party	L. Gaultier	'83	M-L	40"	white
34	30	249	Joyce Terry	T. Muhlestein	'74	M-L	38"	yel. & wht. edge yellow
33	31	239	Codicil	S. Innerst	'85	M-L	32"	lt. blue, blk. beard
37	32	238	Everything Plus	D. Niswonger	'84	M	34"	blue, wht. vio. plicata
24	33	237	Bride's Halo	H. Mohr	'73	E-L	36"	white edged yellow
32	34	232	Rustler	K. Keppel	'88	M	37"	gold-brown
26	35	231	Mulled Wine	K. Keppel	'82	L	36"	rasp. burgundy
36	36	217	Gay Parasol	Schreiners	'74	M	35"	lav-wht., rose-violet
34	37	214	Copper Classic	E. Roderick	'75	L	30"	burnt orange
58	38	210	Persian Berry	L. Gaultier	'77	M	35"	mulberry-lav.
31	39	209	Queen In Calico	J. Gibson	'80	M	34"	apr. red-vio. plic
38	40	206	Dazzling Gold	D. C. Anderson	'81	M	29"	yell. vein. brn.
57	41	202	Ruffled Ballet	E. Roderick	'75	M-L	30"	bl. wht. S. blue F.
42	42	200	Cherry Smoke	D. Meek	'78	M-L	34"	red-black
39	43	197	Night Ruler	Schreiners	'90	M	39"	dark purple
53	44	196	Acoma	T. Magee	'90	E	30"	pale blue/ivory violet plic edge
40	45	192	Rosette Wine	Schreiners	'89	M	37"	rasp. rose, wht. S.
77	46	188	Sweeter Than Wine	Schreiners	'88	E-M	35"	wht./royal purple pink cast, wire rim
46	47	187	Lorilee	Schreiners	'81	M-L	37"	rose-orchid
43	47	187	Oktoberfest	W. Maryott	'87	M	37"	red-orange

52	49	181	Kilt Lilt	J. Gibson	'70	E-M	40"	tan-gold/maroon
50	50	180	Afternoon Delight	R. Ernst	'85	M	36"	gld. tan/lav-whit.
65	51	179	Rare Treat	Schreiners	'87	E-M	34"	plic; blue/whit. grd
49	52	178	Olympiad	J. Ghio	'84	E-L	38"	pale blue
50	53	173	Lemon Mist	N. Rudolph	'72	E	32"	lemon yellow
54	54	172	Camelot Rose	C. Tompkins	'65	M-L	30"	lilac burgundy
72	55	171	Leda's Lover	B. Hager	'80	M	38"	white
44	56	170	Bubbling Over	J. Ghio	'82	E-L	36"	blue-lilac
48	57	164	Grand Waltz	Schreiners	'70	M-L	35"	lav.-orchid
95	58	161	Purple Pepper	D. C. Nearpass	'86	M	35"	lav.-blue-violet and white
56	59	160	Best Bet	Schreiners	'88	E	36"	lt. blue, deep blue falls
67	60	159	Lullaby of Spring	Schreiners	'87	E-M	38"	mimosa yellow/pastel mauve
59	61	157	Thriller	Schreiners	'88	M-L	36"	cerise/claret
47	62	156	Eagle's Flight	Schreiners	'86	E-M	35"	blue-rose, wht. pli
59	62	156	Hindenburg	W. Maryott	'83	M	37"	orange
91	64	155	Loyalist	Schreiners	'86	M-L	37"	rich claret-wine
45	65	153	Orange Slices	D. Niswonger	'87	M	33"	lt. orange
54	66	149	Altruist	Schreiners	'87	E-M	37"	pale blue
82	67	145	Ginger Swirl	Schreiners	'85	M-L	34"	copper-orchid
—	68	145	Yaquina Blue	Schreiners	'92	M	37"	med. blue
74	69	144	Babbling Brook	K. Keppel	'66	M	38"	lt. blue
93	69	144	Holy Night	K. Mohr	'83	E	35"	deep vio.-purple
61	69	144	Raspberry Fudge	K. Keppel	'89	E-M	36"	rasp.-tan/cream & rasp. tan plic.
63	69	144	Sweet Musette	Schreiners	'86	M-L	37"	flamingo/rose
78	73	142	Pink Taffeta	N. Rudolph	'68	E-M	31"	pink
—	74	141	Blenheim Royal	Schreiners	'90	M	38"	med. blue
89	74	141	Latin Lover	G. Shoop	'69	M	36"	lav.-pink/gr. wine

1995	1996	Votes	Variety	Hybridizer	Year	Season	Height	Color
98	76	139	Dover Beach	D. C. Nearpass	'72	E-L	42"	white S., blue F.
—	76	139	Fringe Benefits	B. Hager	'88	M	30"	orange
69	78	138	Designer Gown	J. Ghio	'85	E-M	34"	pink
64	79	135	Easertime	Schreiners	'80	M-L	38"	cream/gold edge
85	79	135	Shipshape	S. Babson	'69	M	38"	medium blue
65	79	135	Study In Black	G. Plough	'68	E-M	36"	red-black
71	82	134	America's Cup	J. McWhirter	'89	M	40"	white
—	83	132	Gypsy Woman	Schreiners	'85	E-M	35"	yell. S., cream F.
—	84	131	Debby Rairdon	R. Kuntz	'65	M-L	36"	white/yellow trim
75	85	129	Infinite Grace	M. Hamblen	'82	M	36"	white/med. pink
97	86	128	Bayberry Candle	C. Deforest	'69	M	36"	chartreuse, gold, olive
79	86	128	Cup Race	S. Buttrick	'63	M-L	36"	white
69	86	128	Master Touch	Schreiners	'80	E-M	40"	purple
85	86	128	Navy Strut	Schreiners	'74	E-M	35"	dark violet-blue
81	90	127	Christmas Time	Schreiners	'65	M	41"	white, tang. beard
82	91	126	Extravagant	M. Hamblen	'83	M-L	36"	red-purple
92	92	123	Tennison Ridge	J. Begley	'89	E-M	38"	plum, wht., burg. plic
76	92	123	Winter Olympics	O. Brown	'63	E-M	37"	white
85	94	122	Lacy Snowflake	Schreiners	'77	M	38"	white
68	94	122	Queen Of Hearts	O. Brown	'74	M	36"	buff-pink & ivory
84	96	121	Catalyst	K. Keppel	'80	M	35"	yellow
62	96	121	Tomorrow's Child	B. Blyth/K. Keppel	'84	M-L	35"	pink/red-orchid
85	98	120	Michigan Pride	T. Berndt	'76	M	35"	yell-maroon-brn. plic
79	99	119	Theatre	K. Keppel	'81	E-M	34"	wht. & vio. bitone plic
20	100	117	Navajo Jewel	J. Weiler	'84	E-L	37"	med. turquoise blue
—	100	117	Snowbrook	K. Keppel	'87	E-M	36"	wht. thin blue border

Runners-Up: 116 Tide's In and Alice Goodman
 113 Classic Look
 112 Pledge Allegiance and Latin Hideaway
 111 Rapture In Blue

New to List: BLENHEIM ROYAL, FRINGE BENEFITS, HELLO DARKNESS, SNOWBROOK AND YAQUINA BLUE
Return to List: GYPSY WOMAN AND DEBBY RAIDON
Dropped from List: DUSKY DANCER, PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE, SON OF STAR, RANCHO ROSE, CHICO MAID AND TIDE'S IN

1996 SYMPOSIUM PERCENTAGES OF MEMBERS VOTING BY REGIONS:

Region 12	33%	Region 9	16.4%
Region 15	32.8%	Region 7	16.1%
Region 11	31.9%	Region 20	16%
Region 23	31.8%	Region 5	16%
Region 13	23%	Region 6	15.1%
Region 21	21.6%	Region 4	15.1%
Region 22	20.6%	Region 3	12%
Region 8	20.3%	Region 2	11.3%
Region 18	20.1%	Region 16	10.8%
Region 1	20%	Overseas	9.9%
Region 17	19.8%	Region 19	9.2%
Region 14	19%	Region 10	2%
Region 24	18.5%		

The average of all regions plus overseas was 18.368%

THE 1995 SJI CONVENTION

Peter Weixlmann (New York)

A wise oriental prophet once said something to the effect; "to understand a thing, you must become one with it on all levels." One hundred and fifty plus convention attendees who ventured forth to the SJI Annual Convention in Baltimore truly know what it is like to be a water-loving Japanese Iris!

The convention, sponsored by the Francis Scott Key Iris Society, was orchestrated by the well-organized and gracious Carol Warner and her crew. June 22 to the 24 in Towson, Maryland found hybridizers and JI enthusiasts from the U.S. enjoying camaraderie and educational opportunities with hybridizers Mototeru Kamo, Dr. Tsutomu Yabuya, Toykazu Ichie and Dr. Hiroshi Shimizu from Japan, as well as Willy Hubleau from Belgium.

Thursday, June 22 provided two unique events; lectures by Mr. Yabuya on flower pigments and by Mr. Shimizu on necrotic ring virus. The evening presentation, aptly titled "Trends in Hybridizing," took the open forum approach. Each hybridizer present was given ten minutes to show slides and provide commentary to dazzle the SRO crowd. The future glimpse from their crystal ball will have gardens filled with well-branched, extended blooming, distinctive cultivars.

Friday began with the SJI Board meeting, as well as a cut flower show. Dozens of cultivars and seedlings were judged by a trio of judges spanning the nation from east to west. At 1 p.m., three buses departed for Ladew Topiary Gardens. This is where the "you must become one with the thing" comes into play. The skies opened up and a deluge poured down on our heads. It rained for *hours* in a place that was experiencing a drought situation. With our clothes pasted to our bodies, we bore up and toured the iris planting, as well as the thirty-one garden areas. Ladew Gardens was developed from 1929 until 1971 and is called the "most outstanding topiary garden in America." The large JI display beds were donated by members of the local society and maintained by Carol Warner. After dinner, Robert Bauer of Ensata Gardens provided a judges' training on JI's, a subject that all were intimately knowledgeable about after 'living as one' that day at Ladew!

The final day of the convention was *extremely* busy. Three buses left in three different directions to the four official gardens of the convention. Sterling Innerst, Rosalie Figge, Carol Warner's Draycott Gardens, and Sans Souci, "without care," owned by Bruce Hornstein and Dick Hugel. All the gardens were in peak bloom and offered ample opportunity to see every guest iris at least once in flower. Outstanding seedlings in the gardens had conventioners scurrying to keep track of their numbers and finding out their introduction dates.

Outstanding cultivars, in no particular order, were KASHUI-NO-ASA (Shimizu '89), a peony flowered light delphinium blue with blue-green foliage and lots of ruffles. YAYOI-KAGAMI (Hirao '68), a lovely three fall frosty orchid with rose/lavender standards and styles was extremely floriferous. NIAGARA POWER (Rettig '95), another 3 fall of grey-blue lavender with fuchsia veining

and red/violet standards boasts two branches. Lorena Reid's PICOTEE PRINCESS is a ruffled white with both rose/lilac freckled and wide rose picotee edge on its six falls. Laced styles and nice branching finish off this quality cultivar.

Sterling Innerst was well represented on his home turf. ABRACO ('93) is a gorgeous 6-fall white heavily sanded fuchsia. DIOMEDES ('92), also a 6-fall, is a vigorous light blue lavender with a wide darker edge, was in a mass planting and IPSUS ('81), a ruffled navy blue self of 6-falls, proved most popular.

Currier McEwen's tet, SUMMER SON is a huge cobalt blue with great substance and strong garden presence. Bauer/Coble had the tallest JI, BELLENDER BLUE ('93), 50" tall with huge cadet blue 3-fall flowers as well as nice branching. ROSEWATER ('96) had every conventioneer's attention, a ruffled 6-fall rose-lavender with a blue watercolor halo and rose standards separates this pastel confection from the rest of the pack.

As is always the case, time constraints forced all back to the hotel for the awards banquet. Favorite guest iris was ROSEWATER, followed by 9J-55-16B, Reid, NIAGARA POWER & STELLA NIAGARA, Rettig, and ABRACO, Innerst. Favorite garden iris was CASCADE CREST (Aitken '88) followed by BUTTERFLIES IN FLIGHT (Aitken '91) and DIOMEDES.

The traditional auction of guest plants finished this year's convention with spirited bidding and unusual items from our Japanese guests. I would say that I understand what it is to be a Japanese Iris . . . but then I'd be *all wet!*

Going to the Sacramento Convention?

SUPERSTITION IRIS GARDENS invites you to visit either **BEFORE, DURING, or AFTER** the AIS National Convention in Sacramento. We have over 1 acre of iris to see with all classes of bearded iris (including arilbreds) and also Spurias, Louisianas, and Siberians. We currently grow over 1,300 varieties. The gardens are truly "display" type gardens with wide, grassy walkways and have a beautiful Sierra Nevada foothill setting on a quiet, winding country road. Our higher foothill location means our peak bloom dates are usually 7-10 days *after Sacramento*. Therefore, before the Convention, we'll still have dwarfs and arilbreds at peak! And our tall will peak after the Convention! *We are official display gardens for both the Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS) and the Median Iris Society.*

We're VERY EASY to locate. Take the Route 140 East exit from either major California Freeway (Route 99 or Interstate 5). From Route 99 in Merced, take Route 140 East for 21½ miles to Old Highway. Turn right onto Old Highway and in 2½ miles you'll see the gardens on the right. Normal garden hours are 10 AM to 5 PM, but Convention-goers are welcome at anytime (PLEASE call first).

SUPERSTITION IRIS GARDENS

2536 Old Highway, Cathey's Valley, CA 95306 (phone 209-966-6277)

1996 INTRODUCTIONS FROM BARRY BLYTH ♦ JOE GATTY ♦ KEITH KEPPEL

TALL BEARDED

- ARCTIC EXPRESS** (Gatty) EM 38" (Christmas X Ocean Pacific) Heavily ruffled and fluted white, white beards. #X60-3. 35.00
- AURA LIGHT** (Blyth) EM 34" (Imprimis sib X Chocolate Vanilla) White and brilliant gold amoena. #A106-4. 40.00
- HAUTE COUTURE** (Gatty) ML 34" (T-1-2: (((Louise Watts x Loudoun Charmer) x Playgirl) x Presence) X Rare Occasion) Immense light peach pink blend. Wide, laced, deeply pleated. #X63-5. 35.00
- LOCAL COLOR** (Keppel) M 40" (Witches' Sabbath X Gallant Rogue) Dark violet and plush black violet bitone, conspicuous vermilion orange beards. #89-79B. 35.00
- MALLOW DRAMATIC** (Gatty) M 36" (Coming Up Roses X Designing Woman) Glowing mallow pink, pinkish orange beards. #X45-2. 35.00
- NIGHT GAME** (Keppel) ML 42" (Local Color sib) Clean velvety burgundy black with smoldering brick orange beards. #89-79Q. 40.00
- PERFECT GIFT** (Keppel) M 34" (Social Event X Femme Fatale) Heavily ruffled, fluted medium-size clear pale pink. #89-29B. 35.00
- SCREEN PLAY** (Keppel) E 38" (Film Festival X Storyline) Dramatic plicata with pinkish violet to rose violet markings on creamy buff ground. #89-148A. 35.00
- SNEEZY** (Keppel) M 29" (Light Show X 86-4E, inv. plicata lines) Apricot standards, lemon apricot falls pepper-sprayed red orchid; carrot red beards. Variable branching. #89-126C. 30.00
- WISHFUL THINKING** (Keppel) M 42" (((Vivien x Battle Fury) x Little Much) x Honky Tonk Blues) X Spring Tidings) Blocky, ruffled lavender blend, chartreuse gilt on hafts. #90-66B. 35.00
- YES** (Blyth) VE-M 36" (Road Song X Electrique) White standards, honey yellow falls, vivid tangerine beards. #B187-1. 35.00

MEDIANS

- IN LIMBO** (Gatty) IB-EM 20" (Motto sib) Dainty-flowered violet blue and white plicata. #W37-22. 10.00
- LONDONDERRY** (Keppel) IB-M 24" (T-1-2 X Chanted) Silvery pinkish lilac pastel, beautiful form. #91-41C. 15.00
- LUNAR FROST** (Keppel) IB-M 23" (Over Easy X Overjoyed) White with 1½" soft yellow moon below beard. #91-50A. 15.00
- PROTOCOL** (Keppel) IB-EM 23" (Over Easy X Amber Snow) White and lemon gold amoena, ruffled and waved. #90-6M. 15.00
- EASTER** (Keppel) SDB-EM 15" (Le Flirt X Motto sib) Pastel yellow, white and soft lavender blue plicata; pastel blue and soft yellow orange beards. Spring fresh. #91-60A. 12.50
- REBUS** (Gatty) SDB-EM 11" (Motto X Nimble Toes) Violet and white plic, bright sunflower yellow beards. #Y2-3. 10.00
- TATTLER** (Keppel) SDB-EML 13" (Hafnium X Chanted) Buff yellow blend, cornflower blue beards on matching small elongate spot giving the illusion of a larger beard. #91-26A. 10.00

Add \$4.00 for shipping/handling. Catalogue \$2.00 (deductible).

KEITH KEPPEL

P.O. BOX 18154

SALEM, OR 97305



**1995 KNOWLTON
MEDAL WINNER**

BLUE EYED BLOND

*(Photo by David
Schmieder)*



Entrance to Maryott Garden
(Photo by Bill Maryott)

INTRODUCING
THE FABULOUS . . .



DEBBIE REYNOLDS '96
(Oscar Schick \$40.00)

Stock is limited, so hurry. You may order directly from this ad and/or send for a color catalog (free to AIS members; others \$3.00) containing a description of our general listing of bearded irises and 1996 introductions by hybridizers James McWhirter, Vernon Wood, Larry Lauer, Bob Brown, Bryce Williamson, Jim Begley, Clarence Mahan, Betty Wyss, Oscar Schick, Helen Cochran and Abe Feuerstein.

Stockton Iris Gardens

P.O. Box 55195

Stockton, CA 95205

CO-INTRODUCING
THE DISTINGUISHED . . .



LADY BIRD JOHNSON '96
(Clarence Mahan \$40.00)

We are pleased to co-introduce Lady Bird Johnson by hybridizer Clarence Mahan. You may order this lovely, laced, heavily substanted, gently ruffled creation directly from Stockton Iris Gardens, P.O. Box 55195, Stockton, CA 95205. Limited stock is also available from the Iris Pond, 7311 Churchill Rd., McLean, VA 22101.

Stock is limited, so hurry. Also, don't miss seeing Lady Bird Johnson, the iris, at the 1996 AIS National Convention headquartered in Sacramento, California during the week of April 24-28, 1996.

Stockton Iris Gardens

P.O. Box 55195

Stockton, CA 95205



**A scene from
Roris Garden**

*(Photo by
Bill Maryott)*

**Keith
Keppel's
garden in
California
in 1992**

*(Photo by
Bill Maryott)*



**The
Innerst
Garden**

*(Photo by
Mike Lowe)*

EXHIBITION COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 1995

by Lillian V. Gristwood

Another year has come and gone, and the reports of the 1995 Iris season have been finalized. It was a weird spring and summer—Areas that are usually dry were drenched with rains, and the eastern states that usually have rain and snow run-offs were desperate for water. We couldn't use any water except for necessities, so the gardens suffered with the lack of moisture. To top it off, the temperature was in the 90's several days in a row so the Iris blooms suffered severely.

There were only 188 spring shows scheduled, and 6 fall shows hoped to have sufficient bloom to have a good show. Region 14 held 18 spring shows and scheduled 3 fall shows. Region 22 held 17 shows and Region 17 held 17 spring shows. Region 4 held 10 spring shows and scheduled 2 fall shows. Region 23 held 6 spring shows and scheduled 1 fall show. Of the spring shows, 10 societies found it necessary to cancel their shows, and 5 societies failed to send in their show reports.

15 Regions with 107 societies included Artistic Divisions in their schedules; 9 Regions, with 21 societies included Youth Divisions with 3 or more exhibitors to qualify for Youth Awards. (Region 18 had 7 Youth Divisions.) 17 youths earned Best Artistic Design awards. 13 Regions included Educational Divisions, and 5 Regions included Commercial Divisions.

Tall Bearded irises continue to be the most picked for Best Specimens in shows, but Louisiana Irises took the 2nd most awards. Japanese and Border Bearded came in 3rd.

The breakdown of each type of irises being named as Best Specimen is as follows:

Tall Bearded	108	Californicae	2
Border Bearded	9	Louisiana	10
Miniature Tall Bearded	5	Japanese	9
Intermediate Bearded	4	Siberian	2
Standard Dwarf Bearded	6	Spuria	4
Miniature Dwarf Bearded	4	Species	5
Aril/Arilbred	4		

The Nelson Award is given to the iris selected Best Specimen in the most shows each year, but it was a tie this year between DUSKY CHALLENGER and SILVERADO. Each was picked in 5 shows, so there will NOT be a Nelson Award this year. JESSE'S SONG was Best Specimen in 3 shows, and ROY DAVIDSON (a species), along with several others were chosen in 2 shows.

The AIS provided 129 sets of medals to Affiliates and 4 sets to Regional Shows. For the first time, the AIS provided 17 sets of Youth Medals to Youth Divisions.

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY SHOWS 1995

Place of Show	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal	Best Specimen	Exhibitor
REGION 1				
Auburn, ME Charlemont, MA Shelburne Falls, MA	The Whites Deborah Wheeler Deborah Wheeler	The Moors Warren Hazelton Stephen Smith	CLARET CUP (Species) CASCADE CREST (JI) ROY DAVIDSON (Pseu)	Peter Young Deborah Wheeler Rebecca Wong/ Dave Nitka
South Paris, ME Walham, MA	Shirley Pope Marty Schaefer/ Jan Sacks	The Hazeltons Tom & Alice Schaefer	GREY PEARLS (MDB) SNOWCREST (Sib)	The Hazeltons Tom & Alice Schaefer
REGION 2				
Fayetteville, NY Johnson City, NY	Maggie Lou Smith Dorothy Fingerhood	Anna Mae Cummings Mary Stifel	ROY DAVIDSON (Pseu) MAID OF ORANGE (BB) HARVEST KING (TB)	Maggie Lou Smith Dorothy Fingerhood Judy Tucholski
Lackawanna, NY	Judy Tucholski	Greg Schifferli		
REGION 3				
Newark, DE Pittsburg, PA Wilmington, DE	Esther Martin John Baren Larry Westfall	Joan Wood Helen Molchan June Roop	LIVELY LEMON (TB) JOYCE TERRY (TB) JAPANESE PINWHEEL (JI)	Joan Wood Richard Moore Larry Westfall
REGION 4				
Baltimore, MD	Carol Warner	J. Owings/ Doris Rebert	TINSEL (MTB)	J. Owings/ Doris Rebert
Charlotte, NC Hendersonville, NC	Randell Bowen Steve & Jane Smart	David Bowen Randell & Pat Bowen	TRIPLE WHAMMY (TB) ELIXIR (Spuria)	David Bowen Steve & Jane Smart
Hendersonville, NC	Walter Hoover	Blue Ridge Comm. College	AZURE (JI)	Blue Ridge Comm. College
Salisbury, MD	Diana Hunter	Thomas Cimino	STARDUST MEMORIES (TB)	Diana Hunter
Towson, MD Virginia Beach, VA Virginia Beach, VA Washington, D.C. Williamsburg, VA	Larry Westfall Frances Thrash D. J. Kelly Clarence Mahan Betty Worrell	Carol Warner Anna Brooks Ann Schwarz-Miller Dick Sparling Jim & Nelda Pressly	LITTLE SNOWMAN (JI) VERIVOGUE (TB) PRAIRIE NOBLE (JI) MINT FRESH (Species) KINGLEY DIGNITY (TB)	Larry Westfall Frances Thrash D.J. Kelly Clarence Mahan Jim & Nelda Pressly
REGION 5				
Anderson, SC	Steve Smart	Randell Bowen	LAVENDER QUEEN (TB)	Lucille Chicvara
Columbia, SC	Randell & Pat Bowen	Jim & Peggy Jeffcoat	GODZILLA (LA)	Jim & Peggy Jeffcoat
Decatur, GA	Mark & Patty Franklin	Beverly Barbour	CALM SEA (TB)	Laura D. Lewis
Milledgeville, GA	Cody & Velma Brett	Earnest Yearwood	ICE ANGEL (LA)	Earnest Yearwood
Spartanburg, SC Summerville, SC	Pat Bowen Randall Bowen	John Wood Patricia Brooks	RED ECHO (LA) DURAL WHITE BUTTERFLY (LA)	Steve & Jane Smart Patricia Brooks
Summerville, SC	Walter Hoover	Peggy Beason	SWEET MURMUR (JI)	B.C. Johnson
REGION 6				
Akron, OH	Tony & Dorothy Willott	Wilford James	EARL ROBERTS (TB)	Tony & Dorothy Willott
Akron, OH	Tony & Dorothy Willott	Mike James	ICE & INDIGO (SDB)	Tony & Dorothy Willott
Cleveland, OH	Tony & Dorothy Willott	Doug & Joy Fuhrmeyer	BROWNBERRY (BB)	Tony & Dorothy Willott
Fairview, MI Ft. Wayne, IN	Evelyn Momrik Roger & Lynda Miller	Wayne Neumann Virginia Wesche	BRISTOL GEM (TB) DAPPLED PONY (MTB)	Evelyn Momrik Russell Bruno
Grand Rapids, MI	Doris DeHaan	Marilyn Wirth-Gendrikous	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Marilyn Wirth-Gendrikous
Indianapolis, IN Kalamazoo, MI	Doris Winton Ensata Gardens	Charles Bunnell Mike & Pam Thomas	SILVERADO (TB) STELLAR LIGHTS (TB)	Marvin Davis Kathy Majdan
Kalamazoo, MI	Ensata Gardens	Jill Copeland	FOREIGN INTRIGUE (JI)	Ensata Gardens

Lansing, MI	Ruth & Ray Esper	Glada Quinn	AFTERNOON DELIGHT (TB)	Ruth & Ray Esper
Mansfield, OH	Harry & Donna Wolford	Donald Saurers	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Harry & Donna Wolford
Muncie, IN	Millers Manor Gardens	Marvin Davis	MAUI MOONLIGHT (IB)	Christine Foy
REGION 7				
Bowling Green, KY	Irene Hughes	Jim Bingham	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Estle Hughes
Columbia, TN	Frances Luna	Barbara Rihenberry	ESMERALDA (TB)	A.C. Fitzgerald
Dresden, TN	Earnest & Deborah Royal	Joyce Reynolds	ALABAMA BOUND (TB)	Earnest & Deborah Royal
Jackson, TN	Trudy Lowe	Mildred Moore	LORILEE (TB)	Paul & Kathryn Giltner
Lebanon, TN	Bess Thompson	Inez Turns	ABBY ROAD (TB)	Inez Turns
Lexington, KY	Hugh Thurman	Ed Roberts	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Hugh Thurman
Louisville, KY	Paul Owens	Hugh & Mary Thurman	PECCADILLO (BB)	Sandra Hoh
Memphis, TN	Lottie Lough	Mary Ann Collins	SONG OF NORWAY (TB)	Betty Wilkins
Memphis, TN	Virginia A. Hill	James W. Russell	LADY FRIEND (TB)	Inez Turns
Murfreesboro, TN	Russell Watson	Dan & Margaret Scott	HILLTOP VIEW (TB)	Dan & Margaret Scott
Nashville, TN	Sue & Layton Gossage	Bill Hurt	MISS NELLIE (BB)	Bill Hurt
Nashville, TN	Bill Hurt	Wm. D. Hester	BOSS TWEED (TB)	Wm. D. Hester
REGION 8				
Blaine, MN	Tracy Jennings	Victoria Sibell	GREY PEARLS (MDB)	Tracy Jennings
Blaine, MN	Inge Hempel	Victoria Sibell	EARTHBORN (TB)	Kay Sterzinger
Fond du Lac, WI	Phyllis Semenas	Sheila Sayles	EAGLES FLIGHT (TB)	Phyllis Semenas
Hales Corners, WI	Dorothy Vande	Sandra Lemmer	HEY THERE (MDB)	Dorothy Vande
Hales Corners, WI	Francis Rogers	Dorothy Vande	WELCH'S REWARD (MTB)	Sandra Lemmer
Madison, WI	Karen Eirich	Dan Thruman	ELLIE LOU (TB)	Karen Eirich
Minneota, MN	Rita Dove	Loralee Miller	BLUE LUSTRE (TB)	Joyce Downing
Searcy, AR	LaVera Burkett	Bobby Coker	NEW CENTURION (TB)	Bobby Coker
REGION 9				
Glencoe, IL	Marge McCannon	Alice Simon	MARY FRANCES (TB)	Marge McCannon
Hinsdale, IL	Julie Kupstis	Joan Moritz	PUSSY TOES (MDB)	Julie Kupstis
Hinsdale, IL	Dale Hamblin	Joan Moritz	CREATIVE STITCHERY (TB)	Alice Kudrna
Rockford, IL	Shirley Stein	Francis Brenner	LIBATION (MDB)	Shirley Stein
Rockford, IL	Francis Brenner	Shirley Stein	EVERYTHING PLUS (TB)	Shirley Stein
Urbana, IL	Jerry & Melody Wilhoit	Steve Varner	STERLING STITCH (TB)	Julie Irwin
REGION 10				
LaFayette, LA	Gorden Rabalais	Rusty Ostheimer	CHARLIE'S TRESS (LA)	Gordon Rabalais
REGION 11				
Nampo, ID	Lucille Pinkston	Tony DeRose	HELLO DARKNESS (TB)	Chuck Stanley
Missoula, MT	Bob & Billie Gray	Carryl & Honk Meyer	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Bob & Billie Gray
REGION 12				
Salt Lake City, UT	Brad & Kathie Kasperek	Darlene Pinegard	TITAN'S GLORY (TB)	Brad & Kathie Kasperek
Salt Lake City, UT	Brad & Kathie Kasperek	Ora Burton	NEON TROLL (IB)	Brad & Kathie Kasperek
REGION 13				
Clackamas, OR	Mountain View Gardens	Wildwood Gardens	SILVER EDGE (Sib)	Mountain View Gardens
Portland, OR	Mountain View Gardens	Abbey Gardens	QUEEN'S PAWN (SDB)	Abbey Gardens
Portland, OR	Chad Harris	Mountain View Gardens	ELECTRIC RAYS (JI)	Chad Harris
Richland, WA	Mildred Grow	Clyde Mead	HELLO DARKNESS (TB)	Lyle Fort

Spokane, WA	Laura Buelow	Norma Lunden	INDIGO PRINCESS (TB)	Virginia Harms
Tacoma, WA	Marjorie Kilborn	Clayton Kitchell	HALF MAGIC (Cal-Sib)	Mrs. Ted Lind
Walla Walla, WA	Jean Dietrich	Mildred Grow	RARE EDITION (IB)	Jean Dietrich
Walla Walla, WA	Margaret McCrae	George E. Dietrich	SHEER BLISS (TB)	Carrie Criscola
REGION 14				
Capitola, CA	Joe Ghio	Lois Belardi	MODERN CLASSIC (TB)	Diane Sampson
Chico, CA	Leo & Norma Barnard	Cloudia & Bill Owen	PEACE KEEPERS FORCE (TB)	Cloudia Owen
Clovis, CA	Bill Tyson	George Sutton	FAIR MAIDEN (TB)	Bill Tyson
Folsom, CA	SEEDLING	SHOW CERTIFICATES	ONLY GIVEN	
Hanford, CA	Ed Matheny III	Dorothy Dominici	BLUE GLOSS (TB)	Payson Vucovich
Las Vegas, CA	Berkley Hunt	Jean Paul	MAGIC RAIMENT (TB)	Jean Paul
Las Vegas, CA	Howard & Lee Wald	Helen Cochran	SILVERADO (TB)	Howard & Lee Wald
Modesto, CA	Gordon & Lorraine Nicholson	Frank Vogel	DREAM AFFAIR (TB)	Frank & Maggie Vogel
Oakland, CA	Glenn Corlew	Carl & LaRue Boswell	GEMSTAR (SDB)	Vernon Wood
Palo Alto, CA	Gigi Hall	Jane Trayer	BLUE BALLET (TB)	Christine Dickson
Redding, CA	Sandy Olsen	Phyllis Ohanlon	PACIFIC TIDE (TB)	Juanita Gregory
Redding, CA	Judy Wallach	Phyllis Ohanlon	BLENHEIM ROYAL (TB)	Judy Wallach
Sacramento, CA	Bertha Brownlee	M.A.D. Gardens	SEA GAL (PCI)	M.A.D. Gardens
San Jose, CA	Frank & JoAnn Lueke	Helen Bliven	ILA	Ron Betzer
Santa Rosa, CA	David Cadd	Anna Cadd	REMEMBERED (Spu)	Betty Ford
Visalia, CA	George Sutton	Edwin S. Matheny III	KATHLEEN KAY NELSON (TB)	George Sutton
Ukiah, CA	JoAnne McGrew	Jay Hudson	OPPORTUNITY (TB)	Betty Coyle
Walnut Creek, CA	Ed & Mary Ralston	Dorothy Rucker	DEBBY RAIRDON (TB)	Ed & Mary Ralston
			WESTAR (SDB)	
REGION 15				
Arcadia, CA	Judy Mogil	George Sherman	RIDE THE WIND (TB)	Mary Ann Spurlock
Palmdale, CA	Babbette Sandt	Cal Bostwick	STAR WARS (TB)	Pat Girl
Phoenix, AZ	Peggy Morphew	Joliene Konkall	EXTRAORDINAIRE (LA)	John Comer
San Diego, CA	Bob Brooks	Norm Allin	WHITE LIGHTNING (TB)	Ruth Bryce
Tucson, AZ	Monica Hauptman	Sally Cooperman	BAD CAD (TB)	Barbara Evans
Woodland Hills, CA	Jean Bossier	Toni Thomas	SPRING ISLAND (Spu)	Teresa Sage
REGION 16 (CANADA)				
Burlington, Ont	Cathy Boyko	Chuck Chapman	BABY LOVE (BB)	Gloria McMillen
Norwich, Ont	Chuck Chapman	Silvia Chapman	STOP THE MUSIC (TB)	Ken Viner
REGION 17				
Amarillo, TX	Kenneth Mazurek	June Neel	FRONTIER MARSHALL (TB)	Stanley Leonard
Austin, TX	Lew Begley	Don & Pat Freeman	DAWN CANDLE (Spu)	Don & Pat Freeman
Bonham, TX	Melvin Curtis	Florence Ritter	LULLABY OF SPRING (TB)	Melvin Curtis
Cleburne, TX	Mary Huggins	Bobbie Johnson	GOING MY WAY (TB)	Helen Furr
Dallas, TX	Bonnie & Hooker Nichols	Ellen Sullivan	KATY LYNN (TB)	Binion Amerson
Dallas, TX	Linda Thornbrugh	Bonnie & Hooker Nichols	BOOGIE WOOGIE (TB)	Bonnie & Hooker Nichols
Denison, TX	Carla & Doyle Moore	Judith Earp	CHANGE OF PACE (TB)	Judith Earp
Fort Stockton, TX	Janet Newton	Jamie Dunn	ROSETTE WINE (TB)	Janet Newton
Fort Worth, TX	Bonnie & Hooker Nichols	Joe & Donna Spears	RUFFLED SKIRTS (TB)	Bonnie & Hooker Nichols
Iowa Park, TX	Nuzelle Raley	Carla Moore	PROUD TRADITION (TB)	Wm. Parker III
Lubbock, TX	Bill & Eupha Skillman	Vernon & Dana Brown	BABE (SDB)	Vernon & Dana Brown
Lubbock, TX	Ramona Howard	Vernon & Dana Brown	HEAVENLY GUEST (TB)	Ramona Howard
Midland, TX	Debbie Strauss	Loni Mitchell	PAYOFF (MTB)	Joella Olson
Odessa, TX	Debbie Strauss	Joella Olson	TEQUILA	Dr. John Howlett
Sherman, TX	Ira & Thelma Inman	Frebert & Pauline Belcher	SUNRISE (TB)	Alisa Peters
Temple, TX	Mrs. Dana Glaser	Mrs. Maudie Landers	SILVERADO (TB)	Venetia Beckhusen
Waco, TX	Hazel Haik	Bob Alexander	STRATEGEM (TB)	Hazel Haik
			HIGH FALUTIN (TB)	

REGION 18

Augusta, KS	Mary Winzer	Bob Coloney	SKY HOOKS (TB)	Paul Smith
Cape Girardeau, MO	Opal Harris	Nancy Johnson	FASHION FLING (TB)	Lillian Pohlman
Crystal City, MO	Riley Probst	Jim Morris	COMPETITIVE EDGE (TB)	Riley Probst
Hutchinson, KS	Saundra Grimm	Nellye Drake	DESIGNER GOWN (TB)	Blanche Coleman
Joplin, MO	Bill Chapman	Mary Lou Chapman	POINT MADE (TB)	John Spare
Kansas City, MO	Calvin Helsley	Perry-Bates	BRONZETTE STAR (TB)	Mitch Jameson
Parsons, KS	John Spare	Bill Chapman	TIME SCAPE (TB)	Mary Lou Chapman
St. Joseph, MO	Jim Hedgecock	Ted Conroy	GORDONVILLE WHITE (Spec)	John Swiastyn
St. Louis, MO	Jim Morris	Riley Probst	JESSE'S SONG (TB)	Jim Loveland
St. Louis, MO	Riley Probst	Nyla Hughes	JESSE'S SONG (TB)	Jim Loveland
St. Louis, MO	Robert Cranor	Quinton Marshall	DAZZLING GOLD (TB)	Robert Cranor
St. Louis, MO	Don Delmez	Lu & Orville Dickhout	TOTAL IMAGE (JI)	Don Delmez
St. Louis, MO	Robert Cranor	John Macchi	SILVERADO (TB)	John Macchi
Washington, MO	James Morris	Mary Ferguson	DIETY (TB)	Bob Koch
Wichita, KS	Dorothy Dickson	Helen Reynolds	BRONZE FALCON (AB)	Dorothy Dickson

REGION 19

Lawrenceville, NJ	William & Martha Griner	Joseph & Margaret Griner	BROWNBERRY (BB)	Mary Townsend
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REGION 20

Colorado	Lowell Baumunk	Morris Steinheimer	FLIGHT OF FANCY (TB)	Lowell Baumunk
Spring, CO	Lowell Baumunk	Lois & Orvid Olson	BIG BUCK (TB)	Tyler Olson
Denver, CO	Rose McClain	Barbara Lewis	SUNSHINE SONG (TB)	Emery Swartzendruber
Rocky Ford, CO				

REGION 21

Lincoln, NE	Eugene Kalkwarf	Allan Ensminger	YO (BB)	Sue Tomson
Norfolk, NE	Marjorie Jansen	Don Bronzynski	RUMBLESEAT (TB)	Larry Harder
Scotts Bluff, NE	Julie Feil	LeRoy Meininger	CAPRICIOUS (TB)	Julie Feil
Sioux City, IO	Larry L. Harder	Arnold Koekkek	INDULGE (TB)	Larry L. Harder
Sioux Falls, SD	Tova Johnson	Wagontrail Achers	SPINNING WHEEL (TB)	Wagontrail Acres
Omaha, NE	Jim Ennenga	Jan Fricke	PRAY FOR PEACE (TB)	Celeste Micek

REGION 22

Edmond, OK	Bonnie Hadaway	Leigh Ellis	SIGHS & WHISPERS (TB)	Paul Black
Enid, OK	Ann Dee Barrows	John & Ginny Tripp	KNIGHTED (TB)	John & Ginny Tripp
Hobart, OK	Bebe Reimer	Robert Medina	SILVERADO (TB)	Robert Medina
Hot Springs, AR	Jim Bledsoe	Richard Morgan	SARAH O'CONNER (LA)	Tim & Debbie Hassell
Lawton, OK	Donna & Lacy Hagood	Shirley Hollowell	BIMINI (BB)	Eula & James Cooper
Lawton, OK	Robert & Paul Medina	Angela Ashby	BEVERLY SILLS (TB)	Robert & Paul Medina
Lawton, OK	Joe & Maude Norton	Fred & Erma Cross	E.C. EVERINGHAM (LA)	Donna & Lacy Hagood
Lawton, OK	Fred & Erma Cross	Donna & Lacy Hagood	LOOP THE LOOP (TB)	Fred & Erma Cross
Little Rock, AR	Mr/Mrs Richard C. Butler	Tom Dillard	GERTIE BUTLER (LA)	Mr/Mrs Richard C. Butler
Norman, OK	Perry L. Parrish	Ted Thompson	POET (TB)	Ted Thompson
Oklahoma City, OK	Rex Matthews	Paul Black	ESTHER THE QUEEN (AB)	Ramona French
Oklahoma City, OK	Rex Matthews	Loretta Aaron	POINT MADE (TB)	Rex Matthews
Oklahoma City, OK	Louise Carson	Rex Matthews	BEVERLY SILLS (TB)	Jackie Karban
Oklahoma City, OK	Perry Dyer	Dean & Georgia Brand	HURRICANE PARTY (LA)	Paul Black
Ponca City, OR	Robert Dickson	Elizabeth Campbell	LADY FRIEND (TB)	Dorothy & Ray Cantwell
Tulsa, OK	Dean & Georgia Brand	Patricia Tanton	PLEASURE PEACH (TB)	Dean & Georgia Brand
Tulsa, OK	Dean & Georgia Brand	Wilma & Jeff Heath	BEAUTIFUL DREAMER (TB)	Dorothy Howard

REGION 23

Albuquerque, NM	Peter McGrath	Scott & Reita Jordan	TUCROSE (RC)	Peter McGrath
Albuquerque, NM	Scott & Reita Jordan	Peter McGrath	TSLIL (ONCO)	Peter McGrath
Albuquerque, NM	Irene Schockey	Peter McGrath	LENORA PEARL (BB)	Irene Schockey
LaCruces, NM	Rosemary Anderson	Margaret Dean	THORNBIRD (TB)	Maxine Perkins
Roswell, NM	Pegi Naranjo	Bill Harris	GODSEND (TB)	Clifton Frosch
Santa Fe, NM	Pat Soland	Charles White	ABRIDGED	Pat Feather
			VERSION (MTB)	

REGION 24

Coffeeville, MS	Walter Moores	Truman Scarborough	WONDERSTRUCK (TB)	Jim & Evelyn Kuykendall
Huntsville, AL	Margaret Connally	Sue McNeal	TEMPLE GOLD (TB)	Sue McNeal

FALL SHOWS**REGION 4**

Lewisburg, WV	Joan Roberts	Dennis Stoneburner	NORTHWARD HO (TB)	Joan Roberts
Beltsville, MD	Joan Roberts	Ginny Spoon	BABY BLESSED (SDB)	Don & Ginny Spoon

REGION 14

Chico, CA	Linda Dotson	Kathy Hutchinson	CHILD STAR (BB)	Leroy Hord
Hanford, CA	Ray Bearden	George Sutton	LEPRECHAUN'S DELIGHT (SDB)	Ray Bearden

REGION 23

Roswell, NM	Bill Harris	Polly Brewton	LADY EMMA (MTB)	Bill O'Kelley
-------------	-------------	---------------	-----------------	---------------

NUMBER OF 1995 SHOWS REPORTED BY REGIONS

Region	Number of Shows	Position
14	18	1
22	17	2
17	17	
18	15	4
6	13	5
7	12	6
4	10	7
8	8	8
13	8	
5	7	10
9	6	11
15	6	
23	6	
21	5	14
1	5	
2	3	16
3	3	
20	3	
11	2	19
12	2	
16	2	
24	1	
10	1	23
19		

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY SHOWS 1995

Place of Show	Best Design	Artistic Sweepstakes	Best Design Youth	Artistic Sweepstakes Youth
REGION 1				
Auburn, ME	Linda Ridlon	Nancy McNeill	_____	_____
Charlemont, MA	Andrew Wheeler	Andrew Wheeler	_____	_____
Shelburne Falls, MA	Andrew Wheeler	Kathleen Marble	_____	_____
South Paris, ME	Linda Ridlon	Sharon Harvie	_____	_____
Waltham, MA	Kathleen Marble	Kathleen Marble	_____	_____
REGION 2				
Fayetteville, NY	Ann DeLearian	_____	_____	_____
Lackawanna, NY	Judy Tucholski	_____	_____	_____
REGION 3				
Pittsburg, PA	Nancy Gerhardt	_____	_____	_____
REGION 4				
Charlotte, NC	Dr. John Dunn	_____	_____	_____
Washington, DC	Mrs. Glenda Mumford	Mrs. Glenda Mumford	_____	_____
		Dolores Telch	} tie	
REGION 5				
Anderson, SC	Em Holman	_____	_____	_____
Columbia, SC	Lee Jeremias	_____	_____	_____
Decatur, GA	H. Kenneth Duke	_____	_____	_____
Milledgeville, GA	Roy Mixon	Joe Scott Watson	Kristen Geeter	_____
Spartanburg, SC	Marshall Goforth	Marshall Goforth	Dusty Sellers	Dusty Sellers
Summerville, SC	Betty Black	Leora Moore	_____	_____
REGION 6				
Akron, OH	Ruby Clark	Ruby Clark	_____	_____
Akron, OH	Mike James	Dorothy Willott	_____	_____
Cleveland, OH	Joy Fuhrmeyer	Joy Fuhrmeyer	_____	_____
Fairview, MI	Kim Focher	Kim Kocher	_____	_____
Grand Rapids, MI	Lois Wier	Lois Wier	_____	_____
Indianapolis, IN	Judy Vaught	Judy Vaught	_____	_____
Lansing, MI	_____	Barbara Church	Jeff Outslay	_____
Mansfield, OH	Kay Hostetler	Kay Hostetler	_____	_____
Muncie, IN	Betty Thomas	_____	_____	_____
Omaha, NE	Celeste Micek	Celeste Micek	_____	_____
REGION 7				
Bowling Green, KY	Liz Hood	Liz Hood	_____	_____
Lebanon, TN	Margaret Joines	Margaret Joines	_____	_____
Louisville, KY	Helen Harrigan	Helen Harrigan	Krissy Legg	_____
Memphis, TN	Mary Sandvig	_____	_____	_____
Murfreesboro, TN	Elsie Brooks Moore	_____	_____	_____
Nashville, TN	Marsha Baldwin	_____	_____	_____
REGION 8				
Blaine, MN	Char Sindt	Marlene Wolinski	_____	_____
Blaine, MN	Marlene Wolinski	Marlene Wolinski	_____	_____
Fond du Lac, WI	Sheila Sayles	Delores Druger	_____	_____
Madison, WI	Keith Erich	Keith Erich	Mike Witt	Mike Witt
Minneota, MN	Joyce Downing	_____	Lee Jackson	_____
REGION 9				
Glencoe, IL	Lorraine Meyer	Priscilla Segal	_____	_____
Hinsdale, IL	Mrs. Chet Kajiware	Mrs. Chet Kajimara	_____	_____
Hinsdale, IL	Bill Hessel	Pat Hessel	_____	_____
Rockford, IL	Nancy Pilipuf	_____	_____	_____
REGION 11				
Nampo, ID	Irene DeRose	Jan DeRousse	_____	_____
Missoula, MT	Joyce Walters	_____	_____	_____
REGION 12				
Salt Lake City, UT	Kathie Kasperek	Kathie Kasperek	_____	_____
Salt Lake City, UT	Kristie McGuire	Eldwin Sedwick	_____	_____

REGION 13

Clackamas, OR	Nancy Miller	Laurie Ystad	_____	_____
Portland, OR	Nancy Miller	Laurie Ystad	_____	_____
Richland, WA	Helen Kunkel	_____	_____	_____
Spokane, WA	Larry Littman	Norma Lunden	_____	_____
Tacoma, WA	Mrs. Ted Lind	Jeannie Walker	_____	_____
Walla Walla, WA	Verna Bennett	Verna Bennett	_____	_____
Walla Walla, WA	Monica Chedester	Verna Bennett	_____	_____

REGION 14

Chico, CA	Harold Ferguson	Harold Ferguson	Kristofer Kooi	Kristofer Kooi
Clovis, CA	Mrs. Gilbert Serrano	Mrs. Gilbert Serrano	_____	_____
Hanford, CA	Dorothy Dominici	_____	_____	_____
Las Vegas, NE	Mrs. Marvin Ray	Mrs. Marvin Ray	_____	_____
Modesto, CA	Mr. Tracy Gatz	Mr. Tracy Gatz	_____	_____
Redding, CA	Linda Harding	Linda Harding	_____	_____
San Jose, CA	Karen Rouffaer	Lorrie Freeman	_____	_____
Visalia, CA	Dorothy Dominici	Dorothy Dominici	_____	_____
Ukiah, CA	Terri Hudson	Terri Hudson	_____	_____

REGION 15

Arcadia, CA	Eileen Fuimara	Eileen Fuimara	_____	_____
Palmdale, CA	Kerry Thompkins	Kerry Thompkins	Clark Tompkins	_____
Phoenix, AZ	Ellen Smith	Ellen Smith	_____	_____
San Diego, CA	Dorothy Driscoll	Kathy Walsh	_____	_____
Tucson, AZ	Charlotte Clarke	Charlotte Clarke	_____	_____
Woodland Hills, CA	Iris Larson	Eileen Fuimara	_____	_____

REGION 17

Amarillo, TX	Billie Corbell	_____	_____	_____
Austin, TX	Linda Keese	_____	_____	_____
Bonham, TX	Joyce Denton	_____	_____	_____
Cleburne, TX	Ida Mae Moore	Ida Mae Moore	_____	_____
Denison, TX	Gordon D. Green	Gordon D. Green	_____	_____
Fort Stockton, TX	Debbie Dunagan	Debbie Dunagan	_____	_____
Fort Worth, TX	Esther Strawn	Esther Strawn	_____	_____
Iowa Park, TX	Juanita Davis	Juanita Davis	_____	_____
Lubbock, TX	Bill Skillman	Bill Skillman	_____	_____
Lubbock, TX	Eupha Skillman	Eupha Skillman	_____	_____
Midland, TX	Loni Mitchell	Loni Mitchell	_____	_____
Sherman, TX	Carol Collum	Betty Brawley	_____	_____
Waco, TX	Hazel Haik	Hazel Haik	_____	_____

REGION 18

Augusta, Ks	Mary Lee Eckley	Mary Lee Eckley	David Manahan	David Manahan
Crystal City, MO	Jean Morris	Terry Ducheck	Tina Krampe	_____
		Dorothy Jackson } tie		
Hutchinson, KS	Saundra Grimm	Saundra Grimm	_____	_____
Kansas City, MO	Jim Waddick	_____	_____	_____
Parsons, KS	Laura Teverow	Lucy Pearce	_____	_____
St. Joseph, MO	Lucille Boswell	Lucille Boswell	_____	_____
St. Louis, MO	Jo-An Finke	Vince Italian	Kim Schlanger	_____
St. Louis, MO	Rita Kinsella	Rita Kinsella	T. J. Graven	_____
St. Louis, MO	Rita Kinsella	Louise	Laura Ferguson	_____
	Louise } tie	Bellagamba } tie		
	Bellagamba	Rita Kinsella	_____	_____
St. Louis, MO	Vince Italian	Vince Italian	_____	_____
Washington, MO	Gail Keiser	Rosa Kampschroeder	Stephaine Rust	Stephaine Rust
Wichita, KS	Helen Reynolds	Joyce Kirk	_____	_____
Joplin, MO	Barbara Bowman	Barbara Bowman	Elizabeth Fort	_____

REGION 20

Colorado	Pamela Stayley	Jan Stayley	_____	_____
Springs, CO			_____	_____
Denver, CO	Jan Maynard	Jan Maynard	_____	_____
Rocky Ford, CO	Rose McClain	Rose McClain	_____	_____

REGION 21

Lincoln, NE	_____	Gladys Ensminger	_____	_____
Norfolk, NE	Marjorie Jansen	Marian Burleigh	_____	_____
Scottsbluff, NE	June Hara	Viola Schreiner	_____	_____
Sioux City, IO	Dennis Wolf	Ruth Roghair	_____	_____
Sioux Falls, SD	Rae Jean Gee	Rae Jean Gee	_____	_____

REGION 22

Edmond, OK	Bonnie Hadaway	Bonnie Hadaway	_____	_____
Enid, OK	Veda Moore	Veda Moore	Monica Combrink	Monica Combrink
Hobart, OK	Ruby Parr	Ruby Parr	_____	_____
Hot Springs, AR	Beverly Powers	Jean Sleeper	_____	_____
Lawton, OK	June Tomlinson	MaryAnn Holman	Brittany Barnes	_____
Lawton, OK	Mary & Bob Whitney	Eula & James Cooper	_____	_____
Lawton, OK	Mary Whitney	Mary Whitney	_____	_____
Little Rock, AR	Ms. Myrtle Cox	Ms. Myrtle Cox	_____	_____
Norman, OK	Lillian Shelton	Carolyn Wilcox	_____	_____
Oklahoma City, OK	Sibyl Bryant	Sibyl Bryant	_____	_____
Oklahoma City, OK	Jackie Karban	Jackie Karban	_____	_____
Oklahoma City, OK	Anita Burger	Bernice Hiller	_____	_____
Ponca City, OK	Ray Cantwell	Ray Cantwell	_____	_____
Tulsa, OK	Melinda McLane	Erna Loving	_____	_____

REGION 23

Albuquerque, NM	Karen Bergamo	Bergamo	_____	_____
Las Cruces, NM	Cathy Peterson	_____	_____	_____
Roswell, NM	Pinky Blackwell	Elda Keith	_____	_____
Santa Fe, NM	Shelby Green	Shelby Green	_____	_____

Fall Shows**Youth Division**

Place of Show	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal	Best Specimen Youth	Exhibitor
REGION 5				
Milledgeville, GA	Ashlee Brett	Kay Weathers	LARONA (LA)	Kay Weathers
Spartanburg, SC	Stacy Smart	Heire Smart	DUSKY CHALLENGER (TB)	Stacy Smart
REGION 7				
Louisville, KY	Krissy Legg	Benjamin Hoh	PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE (TB)	Benjamin Hoh
REGION 8				
Madison, MN	Nathon Gullixson	Allison Gilmore	SCANDIA DELITE (TB)	Nathan Gullixson
Minneota, MN	Angie Milbradt	_____	LIGHTNING RIDGE (TB)	Angie Milbradt
REGION 14				
Chico, CA	Kristofer Kooi	Colvin Hill	CABARET ROYALE (TB)	Kristofer Kooi
REGION 15				
Arcadia, CA	Jeremy Card	_____	GOING MY WAY (TB)	Jeremy Card
REGION 16 (CANADA)				
Burlington, ONT	Adam Boyko	Gregory Hollinshead	HONORABLE (TB)	Adam Boyko
REGION 18				
Augusta, KS	Mike Walz	David Manahan	PLEASURE PEACH (TB)	Mike Walz
Cape Girardeau, MO	Jessica Braeuner	Jolene Braeuner	NEW COOL (TB)	Jessica Braeuner
Parsons, KS	Nicolette Tanksley	tie		
Parsons, KS	Leah Spare	Jessica Chapman	CELEBRATION SONG (TB)	Leah Spare
St. Louis, MO	Laura Ferguson	Calista Ferguson	QUEEN IN CALICO (TB)	Kevin Gormley
St. Louis, Mo	Kevin Gormley	Laura Ferguson-Grinstead	DAZZLING GOLD (TB)	Kevin Gormley
St. Louis, MO	Kevin Gormley	Calista Ferguson-Grinstead	MIDNIGHT FRAGRANCE (TB)	Kevin Gormley
St. Louis, MO	Kevin Gormley	Margaret Mitchell	AFTERNOON DELIGHT (TB)	Kevin Gormley
Joplin, MO	_____	_____	JESSE'S SONG (TB)	Kira Chapman
Washington, MO	Danika King	Ryan Kin	CENTERFOLD (TB)	Kira Chapman

REGION 21

Lincoln, NE

JITTERBUG (TB)

Lucas Brothers

REGION 22Enid, OK
Lawton, OK
Hot Springs, OKMonica Combrink
Carrie Simmons
Beverly PowersGeorge Tripp
Jean SleeperSWEET MUSETTE (TB) Monica Combrink
SUPERSTITION (TB) Chelsea Day**REGION 23**Albuquerque, NM
Albuquerque, NMMonica McGrath
Whitney McGrathIsaiah Price
Veronica KingPRANCING PONY (TB) Monica McGrath
CHAMBER MUSIC (TB) Kelsey McGrath**Educational & Commercial****Place of Show****Educational****Commercial****REGION 1**

Waltham, MA

Larry Doucette

REGION 4Charlotte, NC
Hendersonville, NC
Washington, DCBarbara Moeller
Betsy Higgins
Brian Lazarus

Walter Hoover

REGION 5Decatur, GA
Summerville, SCEd Brown
Kathy Woolsey**REGION 6**

Akron, OH

Tony & Dorothy Willott

REGION 7Bowling Green, KY
Jackson, TN
Lebanon, TN
Lebanon, TN
Louisville, KYLou Ehrcke
David Farrow
Lou Ehrcke
Margaret Joines
Sandra Hoh**REGION 13**

Clackamas, OR

Schreiner's Gardens

Portland, OR

Laurie's Gardens
Aitken's Salmon Creek Gardens
Laurie's Gardens**REGION 14**

Chico, CA

Mary Old

REGION 15

Phoenix, AZ

Ben Bernhagen

Kary Iris Gardens
Shepard's Iris Gardens**REGION 17**Amarillo, TX
Fort Worth, TX
Waco, TXSue Bell
Joe & Donna Spears
Mary Fussell**REGION 18**Cape Girardeau, MO
St. Louis, MODave Niswonger
Kevin Gormley (youth)**REGION 21**Sioux Falls, SD
Scotts Bluff, NETova Johnson
Julie Heil**REGION 22**Edmond, OK
Hot Springs, AR
Lawton, OK
Lawton, OK
Lawton, OK
Tulsa, OKBonnie Hadaway
Lyle & Louise Trimble
Marjorie Puckett
Fred & Erma Cross
Geoffery Day
Rilla Hickerson

Blue Iris Florist & Gifts

REGION 23

Las Cruces, NM

Ellen Tofoya

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY EXHIBITION CERTIFICATES ISSUED DURING THE 1995 SEASON

Tall Bearded

Barrows, Ann Dee	93-G-1	Mueller, Adam	In Town x Titan's Glory
Baumunk, Lowell	92TFRW-1	Nichols, Hooker	Envisioned Beauty
	RS9313		Neon Smoke
Bingham, Jim	88-01-38		River Jordan
Black, Paul	8632AA (Ruth Black)	Niswonger, Dave	52-95
	A68A (Tom Johnson)		24-95
	B33B		52-93
	B162A		RS9312
Bowen, David	MAW-419	Newton, Mary	88-BO+C-6 (Sue Keefe)
Brand, Dean	83-5B	Oakley, Raymond	KK44-3-2
Brown, Bob	92-BB-1	Olson, Lois & Orvid	90-F-21
Brown, Opal	90-1B5	Pinkston, Lucille	90-1-A
Burch, Thom	ACXC-2	Primer, Rubert	881
Carr, Frank (dec)	92-72A	Reinke, W.F. & Joyce	PTXLF89
Davis, Marvin	N2-E88A	Richardson, Gerald	537-DO
	N-2A76-M	Roberts, Joan	788-2
Dunn, Mary	M939-X	Rogers, Francis C.	C-135-A
	M1062E	Sauers, D.L.	T-28-2
	M2010-1	Schick, Oscar	91-31A17
Ennenga, Jim	E-87-17-14	Shockey, Howard	92-229-B
Ensminger, Allan	90-48	Sorenson, Don	S-91-17-1
Fan, Chun	F91-70-G	Spoon, Don	My Jodie
Fort, Lyle	86-336	Spoon, Don & Ginny	93-33
	89-537-DO	Stadler, J.D.	6-95
Gass, John	G-81	Stetson, Rob	RS93I3
Gerhardt, George	DO22-6		RS93I2
Ghio, Joe	91-123Q2		RS93D1
James, Mike	93-3		RS93G3
	94-6		9257B
Kasperek, Brad	92B-51S	Sutton, George	H-1-SA
Kerr, Fred	91-11-03		H-27
	91-11-04	Tasco, Rick	93-41
	90-28-03	Thayer, Loyd	51S6
Koch, Robert	92-4-3	Thurman, Hugh & Mary	92-2-17
	92-ICX-11	Tyson, Bill	91-4-1
	92-6-11	Walz, Clancy	CA845-IT
Lyons, Ray	84-22-2	Wheeler, Andrew	SH-90-2
Lytle, Truman	TLO38192	Wilkerson, Betty	D34-1
Lemmer, Sandra	T911	Willott, Tony & Dorothy	93-1
McWhirter, Jim	J89-83-2		W92-203
Michel, Len	C-136-1	Wood, Lewis & Adele	XP215A
Moores, Walter	91-14-ARE	Wood, Vern	92-20
Moorehead, Jerry	91-36	Zurbrigg, Lloyd	KK-41-3-2
Knaus, John	9033		

Border Bearded

Burton, Lucy	L90-BP-1
Kerr, Fred	88-17-07
	89-02-01
Kremer, Ken	95-1
Penrod, Leroy	JW95-A6
Posten, Philip H.	92-1825-1
Roberts, Joan	MIX9

Intermediate Bearded

Black, Paul	A114VV
	A114XX
	A114YY
Dyer, Perry	90-40A
Kasperek, Brad	92-N44S
	92B51S
Keppel, Keith	90-M (Protocol)
	91-41H
Probst, Riley	91SWX3FP1
Willott, Tony & Dorothy	W93-44

Miniature Tall Bearded

Craig, Jim & Vickie	C93Z2
Miller's Manor Gardens	2594-B
	2594-C
Norricks, Jack	90-2
	93-4

Standard Dwarf Bearded

Black, Paul	C135B
	A504A
	B215A
Chapman, Chuck	92-357-6
Godfrey, Ada	GGB3
Grow, Mildred	93-0-1
Johnson, Dave	DJ421
	901-S
Kasperek, Brad	93P-25H
	93RM-5A
Keppel, Keith	91-43E
Miller's Manor Gardens	2191A
Rogers, Francis C.	C-202A
Shoup, Marvin A.	901-S
	902-S
Willott, Tony & Dorothy	W94-105
	W90-98
	W90-29

Miniature Dwarf Bearded

Kupstis, Julie	D86-5
	D86-1N
Willott, Tony & Dorothy	W91-158

Aril/Arilbred

Annand, Bob	AAB92-92A(AB)
McGrath, Peter	A91-1
	A91-3
	A93-22(OH)
	MC93-2(AR)
	A91-3
	A91-5-BF(B2)
Shockey, Howard	85-15-4A(OH)
	85-36-5A(OH)
Vossen, Carole	9-31.6(OGB+)
Walz, Clancy	CA77-IT(A/AB)
	C771AB(A/AB)
	C78-103ABZ(AB)

Californicae

Hill, Elyse	EJ6-5-92P
Martin, Rev. Iris	ARX6
Sage, Teresa	894-15
Wood, Vernon	Invincible
	93-51(PCI)
	94-9
	93-83(PCI)
	93-3F(PCI)
	93-72
	93-105
Lawyer, Lewis & Adele	XP215A

Japanese

Ackerman, William	A-3-2-95
	B1-14
Aitken, Terry	89J1
	88-J-25
	90-J-5
	87J18-13
Delmez, Don	SP-4
	SP-5
	SPV-WI-ST-1
	DB-1
	SPDKSA-1
	DDKBWV-1
	B1-14
Ensata Gardens	J89N-17
Harris, Chad A.	91JA3
	89JA13
	89JA8
Reid, L.	92-J-108-7F
Walker, L.R.	90-52-2
	92-52-2

White, John	92-A1-1	Dunn, Mary	L194-3
	88A-1-4	Haymon, Dorman	2-92-1
	SSI-7-5		78-92-1
	92E-A3-1	Johnson, Maggie	MJ1
Wheeler, Andrew	SSI-7-5	Kabalais, Gordon	PBDK92
		Rowlan, Henry	89-LA-1
		Shepard, Dorald	9014-94017
			8901
Siberian	937-A		89521-B
Adkins, Rita S.	Seneca SP		
Borglum, Dana		Taylor, John	Fashion World
Helsley, Calvin	Carmen Jeanne	Mogan, Richard	MTB2-B
James, Mike	93-50		
Miller, Anna Mae	90.7.4		
Reid, Lorena	8572-26	Species	
Schafer/Sacks	S92-75-10	Hoover, Walter	CSG-1(VIR)
	S92-75-11	Stelle, Katherine	12506 (Pseu)
Thrumman, Dan	DTP2	Wheeler, Andrews	WPB-1 (Setosa)
White, John	93B-B4-7	White, John	92V-1-11A-1
			(versi-color)
Louisiana			
Bourque, Elaine L.	1812-95-1		



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Marie Caillet (TX)
Clara B. Rees Iris Society (CA)
Jack and Helen Cochran (NV)
Nell and Glenn Corlew (CA)
Dolores Denney (KS)
Sidney P. DuBose (CA)
Elmohr Iris Society (CO)
Jean Erickson (CA)
Dean and Linda Graves (NV)
Ben R. Hager (CA)
Gigi Hall (CA)
Larry Harder (NE)
Marilyn Harlow (CA)
Marilyn Holloway (CA)
Keith Keppel (OR)
Las Vegas Iris Society (NV)
Lewis and Adele Lawyer (CA)
Leo T. Clark Foothill Area Iris
Society (CA)
Louisville Area Iris Society (KY)
Bill Maryott (CA)
Lynn McIlwain (CA)
Keith McNames (MI)
Virginia Messick (CA)
Mid-State Iris Association (TN)
Roger and Lynda Miller (IN)
David and Judith Mogil (CA)
Mt. Diablo Iris Society (CA)
Ron Mullin (OK)
Elsiemaie and Nelson Nicholson
(CA)
Larry Nicholson (CA)
Marie and Dave Niswonger
(MO)
Lois and Dan O'Brien (CA)
Dick Pettijohn (NE)
Redwood Iris Society (CA)
Ellene Rockwell (TX)
Roris Gardens (CA)
Sacramento Iris Society (CA)

San Fernando Valley Iris Society
(CA)

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar A. Schnick
(NV)

Schreiner's Iris Gardens (OR)

Josephine M. Shanks (TX)

Gus and Charlotte Sindt (MN)

Southern Nevada Iris Society
(NV)

Mr. and Mrs. Larry D. Stayer
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Chehalen Gardens (OR)

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Nell and Glenn Corlew (CA)

Sidney P. DuBose (CA)

Abe Feuerstein (CA)

Ben R. Hager (CA)

Gigi Hall (CA)

Marilyn Harlow (CA)
Marilyn Holloway (CA)
Bennett and Evelyn Jones (OR)
Keith Keppel (OR)
Bill Maryott (CA)
Keith McNames (MI)
James McWhirter (CA)
Virginia Messick (CA)
Roger and Lynda Miller (IN)
Ron Mullin (OK)
Dick Pettijohn (NE)
Ellene Rockwell (TX)
Schreiner's Iris Gardens (OR)
Ken and Agnes Waite (MA)
Walla Walla Iris Society (WA)
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Frederick E. (Fred) Spahn (IA)
Blackhawk Valley Iris Society
(IL)

Jerre Stoffer (MI)
Keith McNames (MI)

Forrest Townsend (MO)
Marie and Dave Niswonger
(MO)

**Helen von Stein-Zeppelin
(GER)**
Sidney P. DuBose (CA)
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Jessie Wade (TX)

Region 17, AIS
Ellene Rockwell (TX)

Jewell K. Warner (KS)

George W. Warner, Jr. (KS)

**Chris (Mrs. C. L.) Waltermire
(OK)**

Lawton Area Friends of Iris
Society (OK)

John Pope Wilson (KY)

Louisville Area Iris Society (KY)

CONTRIBUTIONS IN HONOR OF:

**Kitty and C. J. Lack (OK) on
their 50th wedding
anniversary**

Rolling Hills Iris Society

Gordon Green (TX)

AIS Affiliated Clubs of Region
17

CONTRIBUTIONS AND MEMORIAL GIFTS

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY: Send to The American Iris Society, Jeanne Plank, Secretary, 8426 Vine Valley Drive, Sun Valley, CA 91352-3656

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY FOUNDATION: Send to AIS Foundation, Richard T. Pettijohn, Treasurer, 122 S. 39th, Apt 604, Omaha, NE 68131. Donations to the Foundation and AIS are tax deductible.

Note: Please include name and address of next-of-kin pertaining to memorial gifts, so that a card of acknowledgment may be sent. Checks should be payable to the American Iris Society or the American Iris Society Foundation.

IN MEMORIAM

HOWARD G. SHOCKEY

Howard Shockey's passion for irises began at age 33, when on May 12, 1957, he attended the first Albuquerque Iris Show, given by the recently organized New Mexico Iris Society. Immediately, he and Irene joined NMIS and AIS as well as a new group called Albuquerque Arils, and in 1959 the Aril Society International. His primary interest was working with the Aril species and arilbreds. Shortly thereafter, he learned to do embryo culture, a technically complex procedure that aids in germinating arillate seeds, although it was later abandoned by him in favor of long-term seedbeds. Howard has been responsible for many Aril hybrids, arilbreds and tall bearded introductions over the years. He is probably most noted for his arilbred introductions, such as SYRIAN JEWEL (C.G. White Medal, 1993), PERSIAN PADISHAH (C.G. White Medal, 1995) and TURKISH PENDANT (A.M. 1995). He has also been successful with tall bearded cultivars such as NORDIC ICE and ORANGE EMBERS, both awarded H.M.s in 1995.

Howard had a pronounced scientific bent and was able, with minimal instruction, to master the difficult technique of chromosome counting from root tips as well as photomicrography, a technique which is very helpful in confirming parentage of aril and arilbred hybrids. Howard loved the globular oncocyclis form and successfully sought to transfer it to a vigorous garden plant. He was particularly fond of uniform colors with large, rounded, well-defined, contrasting signals.

He was a past RVP of Region 23 (New Mexico); past-President of the Aril Society International and of the Albuquerque Aril Society; founder and past-President of the Albuquerque Iris Guild. He served The American Iris Society as Slide Chairman and as a Director. He was an AIS master judge for the last 20 years and was fortunate in his many iris endeavors to have the help of his lovely wife Irene, a master judge, dedicated irisarian and perennial silver medal winner in her own right.

Howard was a life-long resident of Albuquerque. During World War II, he served as a fighter pilot in the China-Burma Theater. Following military service, he was an honor student at the University of New Mexico. He was one of the original eight pilots that formed the 188th Wing of the NM Air National Guard in 1947. He and his brother operated a dairy for some time, after which he became a plumber. In 1964 he started his own mechanical contracting firm; his retirement in 1980 was timed to allow many years to be devoted to his iris interests.

Howard enjoyed vigorous health until the Spring of 1995, when respiratory difficulties led to the diagnosis of lung cancer. Although he was physically very weak during the 1995 bloom and growing season, he maintained a very positive outlook throughout his illness and was able to plan his 1996 introductions prior to his death on October 21, 1995. He is survived by his wife Irene, three daughters and their husbands, and seven grandchildren. Howard's insightful observations about irises of all types, his high professional standards

and his willingness to educate newcomers and old hands about his favorite arils, arilbreds and tall bearded irises will be long remembered in the region and nationally.

We will miss you, Howard.

IN MEMORY OF JOSEPH L. CHRISTOPHER

On August 8, 1995, we lost a dear friend, and AIS lost a tireless worker in promoting both irises and AIS to the public in the passing of Joe. Joe was a native of Nashville, Tennessee, and was educated in the public schools there. He worked for the railroad for over 41 years and was a locomotive engineer when he retired. Although Joe and his wife, Martha, started growing irises in 1949, it was not until they moved to Murfreesboro in 1969 and became acquainted with Chaplain Cunningham that they joined an iris club and later The American Iris Society in 1972. Joe first joined the Twin States Iris Society, and later helped start the Mid-State Iris Growers' Association. After his move to Alabama, he participated in the activities of the Cullman Iris and Daylily Society.

It was my good fortune to meet Joe and Martha in 1974 when I attended a Mid-State Iris picnic and convinced Joe to host a garden for the 1979 AIS convention. Those persons who attended that convention and visited Joe and Martha's garden will long remember the lovely irises and that special Christopher hospitality.

Joe loved growing irises and participating in shows. In 1975, he won his first Queen of Show with FASHION FLING, which is still growing in his garden. More importantly, Joe loved people and was continually recruiting new members for AIS. This is evidenced by his winning the AIS Membership Contest three times. Not only did Joe recruit new members, but he found friendships with them and nurtured their growth in the iris world.

During the past 23 years, Joe has served as President of the Mid-State Iris Growers' Association, Treasurer and RVP of Region 7, and, at the time of his death, Vice President of the Cullman Iris and Daylily Society and Region 24's RVP.

Although Joe is gone, those of us who knew him, know that in his new home he is still concerned with the iris world. As his son, David, said, "He is teaching the people in heaven how to plant and grow irises." During my last visit with Joe, when he knew that he was terminally ill, his concern was the well-being of Region 24 and The American Iris Society.

Thus, we say goodbye to Joe, we are fortunate to have known you; and when the irises are blooming and when we are toiling, planting and cleaning the iris beds, we know that you will be there with us.

James Burch

IN MEMORIAM

SARAH C. TIFFNEY

August 14, 1910–August 8, 1995

Sarah Margaret Cousins Tiffney died peacefully in the early hours of Tuesday, August 8, 1995, in Norwood, Massachusetts. She will be remembered as a scientist, a talented breeder of irises, a friend, and always as a voice of reason, whether in the small matters of daily life or in philosophies of poetry, beauty, and the scientific method.

She spent last winter at the home of her younger son, Bruce, in California, and returned home to Sharon on March 1, refreshed and full of plans for projects to begin. Within days of her return to Massachusetts, she discovered she had lung cancer. With her usual ruthless rationality, she opted for no extreme treatments and set about putting her affairs in order, arranging personally for disposition of her journals and books as well as the irises which were her special passion.

Sarah loved New England as few natives who are simply born here. She was born and grew up in Atlanta, Georgia, and attended Atlanta Girls' High School, where she won one of four nationwide scholarships established by Radcliffe College in celebration of its 50th anniversary. Sarah left Atlanta for college in new England and never returned, save for brief visits. She may have retained the soft turn of southern vowels, but her loyalty belonged to the stony soil and granite severity of her adopted region.

She graduated from Radcliffe summa cum laude, a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and entered Harvard University, completing research for a Ph.D. on fungal pathogens of the human skin. She accepted her doctoral hood in the same graduating group as her finance, Wesley Newell Tiffney. They married, and both accepted posts at the American International College in Springfield, where they jointly comprised most of the science faculty, with Sarah covering the laboratories until the birth of their first son.

When they moved to Sharon in 1946, Sarah returned to her childhood interest in the breeding of irises, especially Siberians, with an emphasis on clarity of hue and the simplicity of classic form. She was an authority on *I. versicolor*, and wrote on the subject for *The World of Irises*, the definitive work on irises. Just before her death she was both startled and delighted to learn that her white *sibirica*, SNOW PRINCE, had earned an Award of Merit from The American Iris Society. Shirley Pope, of Pope's Perennials in Maine, is introducing another of Sarah's Siberians, LITTLE BLUE SPARKLER, in 1996.

She loved to talk about irises and willingly shared her knowledge of any aspect, from the inheritance of colour in Siberians to the niceties of diploid bearded genetics. She spent her life observing, reading, working, experimenting, and being curious; all with spirit, all gallantly, all well.

Ada Godfrey

IN MEMORIAM HERBERT JOSEPH SPENCE

Herb Spence left us and his beloved iris garden on September 16, 1995, after a lengthy battle with leukemia. Herb was born in Maywood, Nebraska, in 1926, and was a graduate of Nebraska State University at Lincoln. Following graduation he taught school for several years and then moved to Ogden, Utah. He worked for the USAF at Hill Field and retired after 32 years of service.

Growing irises and showing off his garden of the latest varieties was clearly Herb's favorite pastime. He was an avid and excellent bridge player and a gourmet cook. We all looked forward to his contributions at our potluck dinners.

Herb was a Life Member of the AIS, a Master Judge and the RVP of Region 12 from 1971 through 1973. The list of the most recent introductions which Herb grew that accompanied his Judges' Ballot was always the longest of anyone in the Region. Among the irises which Herb hybridized were VALENTINA, THEATRE ARTS, VIENNA COUP, NICKELODEON, NEAPOLITAN, LIFE MASTER, GOLDEN ODYSSEY and DIVA.

IN MEMORIAM

Helen M. Dimmitt (Michigan)
Mrs. George Doolittle (New Mexico)

Mrs. Maynard Harp (Maryland)
William M. Rhodes (Oklahoma)

American Iris Society Conventions

1996	Sacramento, CA	April 24-28
1997	Dearborn, MI	June 3-7
1998	Denver, CO	June 2-6
1999	Oklahoma City, OK	May 4-8
2000	Dallas, TX	April 16-20

Fall Board Meetings

1996	Colorado Springs, CO	November 1-3
1997	Austin, TX	
1998	Bedford, MA	



Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

(Required by 39 USC 3685)

1. Publication Title BULLETIN OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY		2. Publication Number 0 7 4 7 - 4 1 7 2		3. Filing Date 1 October 1995	
4. Issue Frequency QUARTERLY		5. Number of Issues Published Annually FOUR		6. Annual Subscription Price Dues \$12.50 per year	
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8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) 8426 VINEVALLEY DRIVE, SUN VALLEY, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 91352-3656					

9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank)	
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY 8426 VINEVALLEY DRIVE SUN VALLEY, CA 91352-3656	
Editor (Name and complete mailing address) RONALD MULLIN, RT. 3, BOX 84, PAWNEE, OK 74058	
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address) NONE	

10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)

Full Name THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY	Complete Mailing Address 8426 Vinevalley Drive, Sun Valley Los Angeles, California 91352-3656
NO STOCKHOLDERS - DUES PAYING	
MEMBERS ONLY	

11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box ☒ None

Full Name NONE	Complete Mailing Address

12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at special rates) (Check one)
The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes:
☒ Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months
☐ Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)

PS Form 3526, September 1995

(See instructions on Reverse)

13. Publication Title BULLETIN OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY		14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below JULY, 1995	
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a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		7,733	8,120
b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation	(1) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, and Counter Sales (Not mailed)	0	0
	(2) Paid or Requested Mail Subscriptions (Include advertiser's proof copies and exchange copies)	6,555	6,234
c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 15b(1) and 15b(2))		6,555	6,234
d. Free Distribution by Mail (Samples, complimentary, and other free)		25	25
e. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)		20	20
f. Total Free Distribution (Sum of 15d and 15e)		45	45
g. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15f)		6,600	6,279
h. Copies not Distributed	(1) Office Use, Leftovers, Spoiled	1,133	1,841
	(2) Returns from News Agents	0	0
i. Total (Sum of 15g, 15h(1), and 15h(2))		7,733	8,120
Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation (15c / 15g x 100)		85%	77%
16. Publication of Statement of Ownership <input type="checkbox"/> Publication required. Will be printed in the January, 1996 issue of this publication. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publication not required.			

AIS SALES ITEMS

HANDBOOK FOR JUDGES AND SHOW OFFICIALS	complete.....	\$6.00
AIS LAPEL PINS		
AIS logo in blue and green on silver plated pin 1/2" x 5/8" with safety lock catch.		\$5.00
1994 AIS MEMBERSHIP BOOK. A complete listing of members of AIS, including addresses.....		
		\$10.00
1939 CHECK LIST.....		
Reprint. Soft cover.		\$10.00
1949 CHECK LIST.....		
Reprint. Soft cover.		\$10.00
1959 CHECK LIST.....		
Reprint. Soft cover.		\$10.00
1969 CHECK LIST.....		
Reprint. Soft cover.		\$10.00
1979 CHECK LIST.....		
Reprint. Ten-year compilation of registration 1970-79.		\$17.00
1989 CHECK LIST.....		
Ten-year compilation of registrations 1980-89.		\$15.00
REGISTRATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS—		
1990.....	\$6.00	1993.....
1991.....	\$6.00	1994.....
1992.....	\$6.00	1995.....
		\$6.00
BULLETINS: Back issues, if available.....		
		\$3.00
BRONZE ANNIVERSARY MEDALS		
The AIS 50th Anniversary medal in antiqued bronze. Suitable for pendants, show prizes, and special awards.		\$2.50
AIS SEALS.....		
Pack—\$2.50; 5 Packs—		\$10.00
Self-adhesive ovals larger than a half dollar, official design in blue and green on a silver background. (50 per pack)		
RHS COLOUR CHARTS		
Set of four color fans, plus instruction leaflet.		\$45.00
1996 AIS CALENDAR		
\$5.00—10 for		\$30.00
BASIC IRIS CULTURE.....		
\$2.50, 25 for		\$15.00
IRIS POST CARDS (16 per pack).....		
1 pack—\$4; 3 packs—\$10; 10 packs—		\$25
THE WORLD OF IRISES		
Edited by Warburton and Hamblen, 34 contributors and authors including international authorities, 494 pages of text, 32 pages full color. Published in 1978 and the most authoritative book on all phases of irises, scientific and popular. 6" x 9" hard bound cloth cover.		\$20.00
75th ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL.....		
Solid Silver, 1½ inches across. Only 500 struck.		\$25.00
75th ANNIVERSARY POSTER.....		
		\$3.00
75th ANNIVERSARY BULLETIN.....		
		\$7.50
AIS LOGO DECALS (for use on car windows, etc.).....		
		\$1.00 ea.

Prices include postage and handling.

Make checks payable to The American Iris Society

Send order to Jerry Gifford, P.O. Box 1414, Antioch, TN 37011

Phone (615) 834-0401

IRIS SLIDES FOR RENT

AIS offers a number of iris slide sets for rental to members, each consisting of approximately 100 35mm slides. These provide excellent programs for both iris societies and garden clubs.

SLIDE SETS AVAILABLE FOR 1996

THE NEWEST IN IRISES: 1992-1996 INTRODUCTIONS—mostly TB, but contains other types.

RECENT AWARD WINNERS: HM and AM WINNERS - 1992 - 1995

THE POPULARITY POLL: Favorite irises as reflected by the 1996 AIS Symposium

TYPES OTHER THAN TALL BEARDED: Bearded and beardless arranged in approximate blooming sequence.

RELIABLES: Mostly past award winners of various types—especially suited for newer iris societies and garden clubs.

1994 PORTLAND CONVENTION

1995 YORK CONVENTION

IRIS TRIVIA—This is a small set of slides and questions that can be used for a fun and informative meeting. (Use of all questions and slides takes at least one hour.)

To Order: Requests for slides should be made well in advance of requested date, preferably six to eight weeks. If optional, specify alternate sets and/or dates. Clearly PRINT name and mailing address to whom slides are to be sent. Rental fee is \$7.50 per set, payable to AIS. Only one set allowed for any request date. AIS Affiliate Societies are entitled to one free set per calendar year. Slide sets are to be returned next day after viewing by PRIORITY mail.

Send check with request to:

Mike Moller, Chairman
Slides Committee
3750 W. Arrowhead Rd.
Littleton, CO 80123

Phone: (303) 797-8341

SECTION SLIDES AVAILABLE

The various Sections of AIS also have slide sets available for rent. These feature irises of each respective group. *Rental fee is \$5.00 per set, unless noted otherwise.* Requests for these slide sets should be submitted as follows:

ARILS and ARIL BREDS: Order from Clay H. Osborne, 47806 Calle Fiesta, Indio, CA 92201. Rental fee \$7.50—Check to Aril Society International.

DWARF: Dorothy Willott, 26231 Shaker Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122-7111. Check to Dwarf Iris Society.

HISTORIC IRIS PRESERVATION SOCIETY (HIPS): Contact Joan Cooper, 212 West Country Rd. C, St. Paul, MN 55113. Check to HIPS.

JAPANESE: Order from John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053. Check to Japanese Iris Society.

LOUISIANA: Order from Dalton Durio, Route 7, Box 43, Opelousas, LA 70570. Check to Society for Louisiana Irises. Rental fee is \$10.00.

MEDIANS: Order from Terry Aitken, 608 N.W. 119th St., Vancouver, WA 98685. Check to MIS.

REBLOOMERS: Contact Diana Nicholls, 4724 Angus Drive, Gainesville, VA 22065. Check to Reblooming Iris Society for Siberian Irises. Rental fee is \$7.50.

SIBERIANS: Order from Thomas Abrego, P.O. Box 693, Newberg, OR 97132. Check to Society for Siberian Irises.

SPECIES: Several sets available—Order from Helga Andrews, 11 Maple Ave., Sudbury, MA 01776. Check to SIGNA.

SPURIAS: To order, contact Patricia Brooks, 102 Jefferson Lane, Ladson, SC 29456. Check to Spuria Iris Society.

AIS LIBRARY CONTRACT

1. Contract will be between the City of Silverton, (hereinafter called "Silverton") located in Silverton, Oregon and The American Iris Society (hereinafter called "AIS") a non-profit organization incorporated in Pennsylvania for the purpose of siting the AIS Library in Silverton, Oregon.

2. Initial duration of the contract shall be ten years with a ten-year automatic renewal with mutual approval. Every five years, all parties will examine operational results and, if deemed necessary, make proposals for changes to the contract.

AIS:

1. All materials provided or subsequently acquired by the AIS for the Library will be the sole property of the AIS.

2. Any and all costs of shipping AIS Library materials shall be borne by the AIS, to include insuring the materials while in transit. Upon arrival in Silverton, Silverton will assume responsibility for the materials.

3. Access to and disposition of all AIS Library materials shall be in accordance with written policies and instructions agreed upon between Silverton and the AIS.

4. The AIS grants to Silverton the exclusive right of advertising itself as the home of the AIS Library during the contract period.

5. The AIS, working with regional iris societies, agrees to make diligent efforts to raise \$1,000 annually to supplement the AIS Library holdings and its operation, and to provide such funds to Silverton.

6. AIS will encourage its members to expand the AIS Library collection and facility through bequests of financial resources, personal horticultural libraries, hybridizing records, and similar materials.

SILVERTON:

1. Silverton will provide adequate physical facilities to house records, books, catalogs, journals and other archives and literary materials owned by the AIS. All AIS materials will be maintained as separate collections and designated as "AIS Library."

2. Silverton will ensure materials are provided proper environmental conditions, controls and security.

3. Silverton will provide qualified librarian supervision to inventory, catalogue, file and maintain all AIS Library materials. Appropriate finding aids such as registers, checklists, guides, and catalog cards will be used for the AIS Library.

4. Silverton shall provide an annual budget report on the AIS Library by April of each fiscal year from July 1 to June 30.

5. Silverton agrees to make diligent efforts to raise \$1,000 (cash and/or in-kind) annually to operate the AIS Library.

6. Silverton shall, to the maximum extent possible, provide conservation services, as necessary, to extend the useful life of AIS Library materials.

7. Silverton, if feasible, will make descriptions of the AIS Library material available to the membership of AIS through participation in national and international data bases.

8. Silverton will maintain appropriate reproduction, communication, and facsimile equipment and services to provide copies of materials to AIS members and other researchers. Fees for such services shall be based upon cost to Silverton.

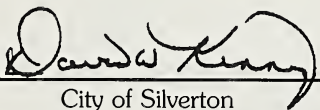
MISCELLANEOUS:

1. The AIS and Silverton shall endeavor to jointly submit grant applications for both operating and capital expenses from such organizations as the National Historical Publications Commission and the National Endowment for the Humanities.


2. No disposition will be made of any materials in the AIS Library without prior instructions and prior approval of the AIS. Silverton may propose disposition of items considered inappropriate for maintenance in the library, and those items approved by AIS for disposition which Silverton wishes to have for its own collection or for resale will be donated free of charge to Silverton.

3. Official communications on all matters related to the AIS Library will be restricted, on the part of AIS, to the President of the AIS, and such official(s) as designated in writing by the President of the AIS. Silverton will formally designate its City Manager as its representative on matters involving the AIS Library.

4. Should the contract be terminated at the end of the contract period, Silverton will secure and protect all materials in the AIS Library until disposition instructions are provided by AIS and will then promptly deliver, at the AIS's expense, all materials to such place and person(s) as directed by the AIS.


City of Silverton

Date: 9-18-95


American Iris Society

Date: 10-16-95

Approved as to form:


Richard Rodeman, City Attorney

(ais.cnt)

THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

For the Year Ending September 30, 1995

Cash in Bank, September 30, 1994	<u>\$185,768</u>
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Income 10-1-94 thru 9-30-95	\$161,214
Expenses 10-1-94 thru 9-30-95	(\$221,130)

Cash in Bank, September 30, 1995	<u>\$125,852</u>
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Income

Membership Dues		\$81,078	
Bulletin			
Advertising	\$8,631		
Back Issues	\$488	\$9,119	
Registrations		\$5,279	
Sales			
AIS Publications	\$18,821		
Other Books & Mdse.	\$17,957	\$36,778	
Committees		\$12,093	
Sections Dues		\$5,520	
Gifts		\$3,841	
Earned Interest		\$6,250	
Other		\$1,256	<u>\$161,214</u>

Expense

Bulletin		\$79,613	
Secretary		\$1,525	
Membership Secretary		\$14,364	
Recording Secretary		\$164	
Registrar		\$4,096	
Sales Director			
AIS Publications	\$2,308		
Other Books & Mdse.	\$10,772		
General Expense	\$31,176	\$44,256	
Other Officers		\$5,757	
Committees		\$59,094	
RVP Expense		\$0	
Section Dues		\$5,231	
Accounting & Insurance		\$9,630	
Other		\$1,551	<u>\$221,130</u>

Authorized Salary Personnel

Advertising Editor	\$3,300 yr
Editor	\$4,800 yr
Membership Secretary	\$7,200 yr
Registrar-Recorder	\$3,600 yr

AIS MEMBERSHIP RATES

Single Annual	\$18.00	Dual Triennial	54.00
Single Triennial	43.00	Single Life	360.00
Dual Annual	23.00	Dual Life	435.00
Youth Member, Without Bulletin			4.00
Youth Member, With Bulletin			7.00

OVERSEAS RATES

Single Annual	\$23.00	Dual Annual	\$26.00
Single Triennial	54.00	Dual Triennial	65.00

Overseas memberships include first class Bulletin and are payable in U.S. Currency

SECTION MEMBERSHIP RATES

	single annual	single triennial	dual annual	dual triennial
Median Iris Society	5.50	15.00	8.00	22.50
(Overseas members add \$5 per year for postage)				
Society for Siberian Irises	5.00	13.00	6.00	15.00
Spuria Iris Society	6.00	15.00	7.00	18.00
Society for Japanese Irises	3.50	9.00	4.00	10.50
Reblooming Iris Society	5.00	13.00	6.00	15.00
Society for Pacific Coast				
Native Iris	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Species Iris Group of				
North America	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Dwarf Iris Society	3.00	8.00	4.50	12.00
Historic Iris Preservation Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	15.00

Membership in AIS sections is open to all AIS members. **For faster acknowledgment, please send Section dues directly to addresses listed on page one.** If you wish to combine your Section dues with AIS dues payments, please be aware there is a time delay of about four to six weeks before sections actually receive the Section dues remittances.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP PAYMENT PLAN OPTION

1. The Life Membership Payment Plan is available only to individuals or any two people at the same address. Not available to affiliates, clubs, libraries, companies, etc.
2. A membership must be kept at least annually current while payments toward a Life Membership are being made. (Example: If your current membership is expiring December 31, 1995, then you must pay for one year as well as sending a separate check to begin the Life Membership Payment Plan.)
3. Full payment will be expected within two years from the date the first payment is received at the membership office. (The first letter stating your intention to begin a Life Payment Plan and payment received constitute an agreement between AIS and the member. You will not receive any "bills" nor receipts. Your cancelled check will be your receipt.) The first payment and successive payments must be clearly marked as "Life Payment Plan". The amount of payment and time of payments are up to you, but full payment must be completed within two years of the time you begin.) At the end of two years, if payment in full has not been received, the payor will be credited with as many consecutive triennial memberships as possible. In the event the amount paid is not evenly divisible by the current triennial dues rate, no overage will be refunded.

POPE'S PERENNIALS

SIBERIAN IRISES

JAPANESE IRISES

We have enough stock to introduce one Japanese and four Siberian Irises from our exciting seedling garden. One iris from the late Sarah Tiffney, one from Dr. Chandler Fulton and three from John White.

JAPANESE IRIS INTRODUCTION OF JOHN W. WHITE—1996

DIRIGO DELIGHT: Diploid, 6 falls, 41". Dirigo Delight is just that—a delight! This six fall Japanese Iris is white ground with a multi-colored band shading from pale blue violet to deep red violet. Topped with ruffled white style arms. A medium to late bloomer and a vigorous grower. (OL' MAN RIVER X CONTINUING PLEASURE) **\$25.**

SIBERIAN IRIS INTRODUCTIONS—1996

LITTLE BLUE SPARKLER: (Tiffney '96), Diploid, 27", E-M. The standards are violet blue (RHS 93C) with faint darker (93B) veining. The falls are cream with deep violet blue (93A) veining, center line and edging. It has slender fountain effect foliage. A sister seedling of SNOW PRINCE. **\$25.**

RASPBERRY RAINBOW: (Fulton '96), Diploid, 29", M-L. A true rainbow flower—well, almost, there's no orange! Violet and green buds open to graceful raspberry pink (RHS 81B) flowers blending to a blaze of sky blue surrounding a bright yellow signal. The unique rainbow effect is attractive across the garden or up close. A floriferous plant with a long bloom season. ((BUTTER AND SUGAR X SPARKLING ROSE) X SELF). **\$25.**

ELISABETH McEWEN: (WHITE '96), Diploid, 32", E-M. A graceful deep blue violet with style arms near white on edges—prominent white signal. A ladylike bloom. (JANET K. MERRILL X SHIRLEY POPE). **\$25.**

MAURICE POPE: (WHITE '96), Diploid, 36", E-M. Velvety dark violet with greenish hafts and a large white signal. Stalwart and large. A worthy companion to SHIRLEY POPE (one of its parents). (JANET K. MERRILL X SHIRLEY POPE). **\$25.**

When ordering please add \$4. for shipping and handling. Postage for overseas and Canada shipment will be for full amount including State of Maine Phytosanitary Certificate charge of \$19. per package. Please specify spring or fall.

For these cultivars and a list of other Japanese and Siberian irises send a stamped, self-addressed business envelope to:

**Shirley Pope
Pope's Perennials
39 Highland Ave.
Gorham, ME 04038-1701**

ARILIA ACRES

HOWARD SHOCKEY

IRENE SHOCKEY

4611 Rio Grande Ln., NW

Albuquerque, NM 87107

1996 INTRODUCTIONS

Pictured on Inside Cover

CORAL DREAMS (H. Shockey) TB M 37". Flowers have coral pink stds., falls are white blending to coral pink edges. Self beards with long white ends. Has a slight sweet fragrance, and quite ruffled. (Sdlg. #89-210-BB).....\$35.00
CAMP FIRE (H. Shockey) TB M 34". Std. deep purple-violet. Falls same deep purple-violet with large off-white area surrounding the large bushy bright red beards. Light spicy fragrance. (Sdlg. #92-208-X) ...NET\$35.00
ALI KHAN (H. Shockey) AB 1/2 (OGB) M 28". White Std. with yellow mid-ribs. Yellow falls with extra large crescent shaped maroon-brown signals. Light bronze beards. (Queen Sheba X Red Sands)\$25.00
ENERGIZER (H. Shockey) AB 1/2 (OGB) M 28". Std. are medium violet. Falls buff ground lightly overlaid violet, lighter area around the dark brown-purple, extremely large signals with protruding yellow beards. Has a slight sweet fragrance. (Sdlg. #92-119-S).....NET\$25.00

Previous Introductions

CRYSTAL MORN 1995 TB Beautiful light pink stds. edges flushed violet. White falls blending to light violet-pink at edges, cerise beards with blue-white ends\$26.00
HARBORMASTER 1995 TB Medium dark violet self, blue-violet beards. Very large rounded, ruffled and flaring flowers. Vigorous plants and stalks with fine branching\$26.00
LANCER 1995 AB 1/2 (OGB) Blends of medium orchid-violet over white. Very large, sharply defined, pointed signals of near-black—old gold beards\$18.00
DESERT FURY 1994 AB 1/2 (OGB) Dark mulberry-red self with exceptional growth habit and branching\$15.00
QUEEN'S VIOLET 1994 TB Beautiful. A clean spectrum violet of top quality, and plant vigor\$15.00
SHEBA'S JEWEL 1994 AB 1/2 (OGB) A beautiful and broad near white self with large signals of maroon-purple\$15.00
NORDIC ICE 1993 TB Very large white with blue flushings, blue beards frosted white. HM '95\$15.00
ORANGE EMBERS 1993 TB Medium dark orange with vibrant orange-red beards. Std. flushed rose-pink HM '95\$15.00

NO CATALOG

Please order *before* August 1

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NEW FOR '96:

- ROYAL BLAZE** (N. Bartlett '96) TB, 36" M, SA. Striking dark purple self. F. have white blaze around the beard, with ruffles and prominent purple horns.....\$30
- WINE PUNCH** (N. Bartlett '96) TB, 34" EM. Smoky red-brown S, lighter in centers; F cream ground heavily dotted with wine red. Has rebloomed in some areas.....\$30

Please add \$4 for shipping.

Co-introduced with.....**RANCHO DE LOS FLORES**

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Artist for the AIS Anniversary Poster
Designer of the Wister Medal

Irises and Other Selected Flowers
Landscapes and Architectural Subjects

Write or call for more information
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SECTION CONVENTIONS

April 12-14, '96	LOUISIANA IRIS SOCIETY	Lafayette, LA
April 30-May 1, '96	MEDIAN IRIS SOCIETY	Portland, OR
June 13-15, '96	SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES	St. Louis, MO
June 13-15, '96	SPECIES AND SIBERIANS by Iris Society of Massachusetts	

THE AIS DISPLAY SCREEN



To Order Our Display Screen for
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Write or Fax to: Ed Wilkinson
4145 Lincoln Avenue
Oakland, CA 94602-2524
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Remember to reserve it early.

Ed will ship it UPS collect, and your society pays to ship it back to him.
Directions for setting up and taking down are inside the cover of the case.

The pictures are expensive—please handle carefully!

BULLETIN ADVERTISING RATES

COMMERCIAL DIRECTORY (Four Issues)

One inch	\$ 37.50	Two-inch	\$ 50.00
Three-inch	\$ 62.50		

DISPLAY ADVERTISING (Single Issue)

One-inch	\$ 30.00	Two-thirds page	\$ 90.00
One-quarter page	\$ 40.00	Three-fourths page	\$100.00
One-third page	\$ 50.00	Full page	\$120.00
One-half page	\$ 70.00		

Full page, color	\$240.00 plus color separations
Cover ads	\$240.00 plus color separations

All advertising copy and photographs, except color which requires individual arrangements, must be received by the Advertising Editor by April 15 (July Issue), July 15 (October Issue), October 15 (January Issue) and January 15 (April Issue).

Send advertising copy and check payable to The American Iris Society to:
Jean Erickson, Advertising Editor
4036 Trinity Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95405

WORLD IRIS ASSOCIATION

Dave Niswonger (Missouri)

At the request of Sergey Loktev, President of the Central Iris Society of Moscow, Russia, the Board of Directors of The American Iris Society agreed to conduct a worldwide questionnaire regarding what interest there might be in the organization of a World Iris Association. Eight letters were mailed to 38 countries who had National Iris Societies or in which there were persons who had shown a special interest in irises (some of the letters were mailed by Mr. Loktev).

From these letters, thirty-nine responses were received. In some instances where I had written several letters to individuals in the same country, responses were not received from the individuals since their society acted on the request as a whole. It is estimated that there were fourteen more individuals who responded through their respective societies. So, there were approximately fifty-three responses to the eighty letters.

Getting back to the actual thirty-nine written responses from societies and individuals, twenty-six said "yes" and thirteen said "no" to the organization of a World Iris Association. I

should hasten to say that, except for the President of SIGNA, no letters were sent to members of AIS. Some of the those saying "no" said they would participate if a WIA was formed, but some who said "Yes", stated that because of their location and finances that they would be unable to participate. So, when asked if they would participate twenty-nine said they would, and three said they wouldn't. This appears that a majority is in favor of such an organization, but as you look more closely to the responses, most of the major societies said "No." It is my opinion, which could be in error, that much of the leadership and finances would need to come from the established societies. Some of these societies indicated that it was all they could do to support their own society and could not handle another layer of an organization. Many individuals expressed appreciation of the national societies for the activities that they are conducting at the present time. But, there was much interest among individuals to bring it all together under one world association. Some suggested the idea of each country to appoint a representative who might meet periodically to discuss items of common interests and to see if certain societies would take on certain tasks for the good of all in a more informal organization. There was also the desire to organize the European Iris Society proposed by the Italian Iris Society first—then explore the idea of worldwide cooperation. Several of the middle and eastern European countries stated they did not have the financial means to travel long distances to international meetings. It appears that there will need to be more interchange of ideas as to the best approach to this question.

When asked whether there was a need for a world headquarters, eleven said "yes" and seven said "no." But when it came to naming a place for the world headquarters, some who had replied "no" to the need, did suggest where the location might be. Twelve said the U.S.A., five said Great Britain, three said Florence, Italy, four said Europe (adding Great Britain and Italy to this would make thirteen for someplace in Europe). One suggested Kew with anything dealing with species, another suggested that it be on a "floating" basis, five years in the northern hemisphere and the next five years in the southern hemisphere, with one suggesting Sydney.

In the matter of what activities such an organization could offer among: publishing, popularity polls, conducting symposiums, conducting competitions, giving awards, financing discovery of new species, establishing a seed bank, financing research, providing a seed exchange system, and another added was financing the collection of known species that are no longer available. Publishing was the most popular, with twenty-nine votes. In this regard, one respondent stated that he didn't feel there was a great need to publish general information for the average irisan or persons just recently interested in irises (he felt that present national organizations did this quite well), but he felt there was a need for a more scientific publication with more indepth articles on subjects such as iris species, hybridizing, genetics, diseases, pests and their control, famous irisarians and historical irises (He felt HIPS could play an important role here). He didn't feel that a WIA publication should deal with new or recent irises, or general articles on garden visits or varietal comments or popularity polls (This is for national societies in his view). In regards to some of the other activities, he felt the WIA could help in the collection of worldwide information, the coordination of scientific projects and plant expeditions, including their funding. He didn't feel the WIA should sell products, including seeds that might reduce the income of national societies.

The least attractive was the conducting of a popularity poll with only five supporting this. The most popular in the order of preference is as follows: Seed exchange (24), Seed Bank (22), Symposiums (19), Competitions (18), Awards (17), Finance species (16), Finance research (16). In regard to the latter two activities, money seems to be the biggest problem throughout the various comments.

When answering the question as to who should be members, the majority favored both national societies and individuals, with twenty-five supporting this idea. Seven said national societies only, one said individuals only. As to the financing of such an organization, the majority favored a combination of national society and individual fees with twenty votes. Eight said national societies only, with four preferring the same fee for all, and eight saying "no." There were only two who stated that it should be supported by individuals only.

When it came to the question as to where an international conference could be held to further discuss the organization of a WIA, there were suggestions all over the place. There seemed to be the preference for the meeting to be held in conjunction with another international meeting. There seemed to be a leaning for the meeting to be held in Europe, although some suggested Sacramento, CA where AIS will be meeting in 1996, and some at the M.A.S.S. Medley in Massachusetts in 1996. Sites suggested in Europe were Florence, Italy; Prague, Czech Republic; and Great Britain. New Zealand and Australia were also mentioned.

It is obvious that further discussions need to be held on this matter. I want to publicly thank all the respondents. They came up with many good ideas and suggestions. I felt the number of responses was good, and it was quite gratifying to see the great interest in irises throughout the world.

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

**Best Western-Saddleback Inn
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**

November 3, 4, 5, 1995

The regular fall meeting of the Board of Directors of The American Iris Society was called to order by President Barr at 8:30 P.M. Present also at the various sessions were First Vice President Niswonger; Second Vice President Mahan; Secretary J. Plank; Treasurer Nichols; Editor Mullin; Membership Secretary Harlow; Publications Sales Director C. J. Lack; Advertising Editor Erickson; Legal Advisor R. Plank; Directors Aitken, Corlew, Gristwood, Harder, Miller, Pope, Stahly, Waters, M. Wilhoit and Witt; RVP Board Representative Smith (13); Foundation Liaison Pettijohn; Committee Chairmen M. Lowe and Jean Morris; RVPs Schmieder (1), Schueler (2), Honkanen (5), Hobbs (6), Gifford (7), Reyna (11), Rinehart (15), Mazur (21) and Perkins (23); RVPs-Elect A. Lowe (4) and Reuter (21); Section Representative James Morris (MIS); Cooperating Society Representative Dyer (SLI); and guests J. Wilhoit (9), Followwill, Gossett, Holman, K. Lack, McVicker, Poore and Simmons (22), and Figge (23).

The President welcomed everyone, inviting and encouraging participation from all, with the reminder that only Board members may vote. Introductions followed. Shirley Pope and RVP Representative Marky Smith were welcomed to the Board.

The following correction was made to the minutes of the spring Board meeting as printed in *Bulletin* #299: Affiliates Chairman Niswonger stated that the number of approved affiliates for 1995 in his report was 167. Three additional affiliates came in later but not until after the report had been given. The minutes were approved as corrected. (See Registrar's report for an additional correction.)

Secretary Plank announced that there were no further nominations to the Board of Directors; therefore, Corlew, Harder, Waters and Wilhoit are duly elected and qualified as AIS Directors with terms expiring in 1998.

Barr reported on interim Board action as follows: 1) Shirley Pope was approved as a Director to fill the unexpired term of the late James McWhirter, who died shortly after the spring Board meeting; 2) Lynda Miller was approved as Membership Contest Chairman, a post formerly held by McWhirter; 3) Terry Aitken was approved to be *Bulletin* Editor when Editor Mullin's resignation becomes effective. The Executive Committee took no action during the interim except to give advice on a matter which came up with regard to advertising. It was announced with regret that Joanne King had resigned as Recording Secretary and that Betty Burch of Region 24 had agreed to take that job beginning with the spring meeting in Sacramento. Barr announced also that the library materials which had been stored in Dresden, Tennessee, were moved in the summer to Silverton, Oregon, the new home of the AIS Library. A contract has been recently signed with the City of Silverton; the signed copy is now in Secretary Plank's files.

Secretary Plank reported as follows: 1) An insurance policy for the society has been secured, and it is her recommendation that there be a permanent Insurance Committee Chairman; 2) the Bylaws have been reprinted incorporating the most recent changes, and copies have been sent to Board members and RVPs; 3) it is time for stationery orders; 4) there was an error in the printing of the last lot of *Bulletin* mailing envelopes; it was a printer error, not Johnson Graphics, and the printer will bear the expense of reprinting the lot.

Barr announced that Treasurer Nichols must return to Dallas the following morning, her report would come next.

The Treasurer presented a detailed annual report showing monthly income and expenses for the past fiscal year which noted that some restricted funds had been borrowed against. A graph depicting income, expenses and net income since 1982 was also presented. A list of many cost reduction strategies, one of which was to increase the dues and delete the Dual Life Membership option, were suggested. (The dues were last raised in January, 1992.) Treasurer Nichols and Membership Secretary Harlow suggested an increase of single annual dues to \$16.00. After discussion, Corlew moved that Single Annual dues be set at \$18.00, with the remainder of the dues structure set accordingly, and that the Dual Life Membership option be kept intact. Stahly seconded. Motion carried. Stahly moved, Mahan seconded, that the restricted Life Membership Fund be kept as a restricted fund with a footnote that it had been borrowed against. Motion carried. Stahly moved also that the budget as set forth by Nichols be accepted. Waters seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting was recessed at 11:10 P.M. and reconvened at 8:30 A.M. the following day, Saturday, November 4, 1995.

Barr announced that in response to her request sent to officers, committee chairmen, RVPs, and section leaders that each one write a job description, replies had begun to come in.

Membership Secretary Harlow presented her annual report stating that new members who are beginners show a thirst for knowledge, particularly about culture and where to find commercial growers. She repeated her challenge of last year that every AIS member bring in one new member during the coming year. Total membership stands at 8,194. Region 14 leads with 767, Region 4 is second with 681, Region 18 third with 629 and Region 6 fourth with 618. In an effort to assist the regions, Harlow suggested that the AIS provide labels, free of charge, to Region Editors for their regional publications. Mahan so moved. Plank seconded. Motion carried. Harlow asked that those regions receiving labels advise her office of publications returned because of bad addresses in order that corrections might be made on a faster basis. The Membership Secretary then proposed that beginning January 1, 1996, all memberships be on a calendar year basis. She suggested that memberships expiring at the end of this calendar year, December 31, 1995, have the opportunity of paying dues at the old rate. Memberships expiring mid-year, June 30, 1996, would get an additional six months of membership at no further cost but would be paid at the new rate. Harder moved that AIS memberships be placed on a calendar basis, January 1 to December 31, implemented as proposed. Smith seconded. Motion carried. Harlow stated that she would accept payment for current dues or any extension at the old rate if received by December 31, 1995. Payments received after January 1, 1996, will be at the new increased rate. It was noted also that there is a payment plan available for life memberships. Interested persons may contact the Membership Secretary for details.

Advertising Editor Erickson gave a detailed report on the amount of advertising sold, stating that April and July are the heaviest months. There was discussion of costs and of color and color separations. Mahan moved that a rate schedule be developed which would include the cost of color separations and that henceforth payment be required to accompany all ads. Miller seconded. Motion carried. This policy should be advertised in the *Bulletin*. Following discussion of a new rate schedule, Erickson was asked to bring a recommendation to the Board meeting in the spring. Appreciation was expressed for Erickson's work.

Plank read a report from Registrar Keppel which included a "Notice to Foreign Hybridizers" to be reviewed by the Board and then printed in the *Bulletin*. The notice reads as follows:

"Notice to Foreign Hybridizers"

"Under certain circumstances, your originations may be eligible for American Iris Society awards. In order to qualify, the following points must be met:

- (1) The variety must have been registered with The American Iris Society Registrar.
- (2) It must be introduced (offered for sale for the first time) by one (or more) North American seller(s); during that first sale and shipping season it must not be sold elsewhere.
- (3) The hybridizer must furnish The American Iris Society Registrar with a letter stating that the conditions set forth in (2) have been met, giving the name of that variety, the seller(s) and the year of introduction. A form for this purpose may be obtained from the Registrar's office if desired.

"By 'sale and shipping season' " is meant the same calendar year in the Northern hemisphere; or prior to spring/summer (catalogues September or later of the same calendar year, shipping December or later) in the Southern hemisphere.

"If the hybridizer is unable to submit the necessary letter or form, it may be furnished by his survivor, heir or local assignee."

"Canadian irises, being of North American origination, are automatically eligible for American Iris Society awards."

The Registrar notes further : "(1) The 'first' North American introduction should be exclusively North American, not a co-introductory situation involving other than the United States or Canada. Any other introduction action during the same shipping season would negate the eligibility. Otherwise it is too hard to verify . . . and in my interpretation opposes the intent of the award. (2) The hybridizer (as specified by Board action in 1993) must be the one certifying that requirements have been met, not the registrant/introducer (as written in the May, 1995. Board minutes). Only the hybridizer, his heir or assignee in the foreign country would know first hand if requirements have been satisfied; the introducer, in North America, would not have first-hand knowledge."

Stahly moved, Mahan seconded, that Keppel's "Notice to Foreign Hybridizers" be accepted as written. Niswonger proposed an amendment to the motion changing the wording from ". . . not be sold elsewhere" to ". . . must not be advertised for sale elsewhere." Mahan seconded. The amendment was accepted, and the amended motion carried.

In response to another concern of the Registrar, Stahly moved, Miller seconded, that irises of any origin be eligible for awards if first introduced in North America. Motion carried.

Witt moved that 1000 copies of the 1995 R & I booklets be published, that they be priced at \$6.00 each and that all other R & I booklets on hand be priced also at \$6.00. Mahan seconded. Motion carried.

Publications Sales Director Lack presented his annual report which included a breakdown of sales figures for the year, a stock inventory, a listing of AIS archival materials and a listing of old *Bulletins* in stock. Lack stated that he had had reports that the AIS Logo decals were defective. Waters will contact the supplier. The stock of AIS lapel pins is getting low. Mahan moved that the Secretary investigate the cost of reproducing the pins and report to the Board at the spring meeting. Plank seconded. Motion carried. Regarding the 75th anniversary posters, Stahly moved that the posters be available for sale to anyone for \$3.00 each for any number. Miller seconded. Motion carried. Mahan moved that a poster ad be placed in the April *Bulletin*. Harder seconded. Discussion revealed that Youth Chairman Jean Morris has a framed poster. Morris will send a picture of the poster to Editor Mullin for use in the April *Bulletin*. Waters will prepare the ad. Motion carried. Harder moved that the 75th anniversary medals be advertised in the April *Bulletin*. Mahan seconded. Motion carried. With regard to the RHS color charts, Secretary Plank was asked to find the cost of the new color charts from England. With regard to a new printing of the AIS Membership List, it was the consensus that the printing could be delayed for another year. It was noted that about 165 binders (covers) are needed for Judges' Handbooks. Witt moved, Plank seconded, that 165 binders be ordered. Motion carried.

Lack then announced his decision to resign his position as Publications Sales Director, citing health problems as the cause. President Barr asked for a resolution of thanks to both C. J. and Kitty Lack for their untiring efforts in running the AIS sales office. Corlew so moved; Plank seconded. The motion carried with enthusiasm.

Paul Gossett reported on the number of old *Bulletins* he has received from the Publications Sales office. He has been mailing them out or giving them away. The old issues are being put to good use.

Outgoing RVP Mazur, having extrapolated the amount of dues increase in the various categories, presented Membership Secretary Harlow with a complete listing of the new dues structure as follows:

Single Annual	\$ 18.00
Single Triennial	43.00
Dual Annual	23.00
Dual Triennial	54.00
Youth/no /Bulletin	4.00
Youth w/Bulletin	7.00
Single Life	360.00
Dual Life	435.00
Single Annual Overseas	23.00
Single Triennial Overseas	54.00
Dual Annual Overseas	26.00
Dual Triennial Overseas	65.00

Editor Mullin gave a brief report, noting that he had been editing one publication or another since 1967 and that he will have completed editing 35 *AIS Bulletins* by the time his resignation takes effect with the April issue of 1996. Stahly moved, Smith seconded, that a vote of formal thanks and high commendation for excellence in editing be given to Mullin. Motion carried.

Affiliates Chairman Niswonger discussed the advantages and problems of affiliation, noting that in 1995 there are 170 affiliates; in 1990 there were 145. Four others are being organized at this time. For clarification it was stated that affiliates are subscribing members with no vote, as are institutions, libraries, etc.

Awards Chairman Wilhoit reported that 799 ballots were mailed out in March, 1995. There have been some problems in voting. Wilhoit recommended that each judge should vote his/her own individual ballot (some married judges have been voting on one ballot with x's and o's), that copies of the official ballot not be accepted and that those voting on copies not be given credit for voting. Mahan so moved. Plank seconded. Motion carried. Wilhoit mentioned that various inquiries had been made to tabulators Bennett and Evelyn Jones for specific information; such information is not always easily accessible. Niswonger moved, Mahan seconded, that response to such inquiries be left up to the discretion of the tabulators. Motion carried. Wilhoit further suggested that there be some guidelines for keeping the results of the voting. She reminded apprentice judges that their ballots are for study purposes only. Symposium results were given, with percentages of voting by region. RVPs present requested again that both percentages and numbers of votes by region be given. In response to a request that write-in voting on the Symposium ballot be reinstated, it was suggested that write-in votes could be counted by the RVPs and the results used for regional purposes.

Convention Liaison Mahan reported that the Greater St. Louis Iris Society wishes to host the AIS fall Board meeting in 1999; he recommended that the invitation be accepted. Niswonger seconded. Motion carried. The Greater Omaha Iris Society wishes to host the fall Board meeting for the year 2000, and the Oklahoma Iris Society has offered to host the AIS spring convention in 2007. Mahan moved that both the Nebraska and the Oklahoma offers be accepted. Niswonger seconded. Motion carried. Mahan stated that invitations are needed for spring conventions and requested that RVPs ask their regions about this possibility.

The meeting recessed for lunch from 12:00 noon until 1:30 P.M.

The Exhibitions Committee report was presented by Chairman Gristwood. There were 188 spring shows scheduled, 10 of which were cancelled. Six fall shows were scheduled. Five societies failed to send in their show reports. There were 129 sets of medals sent to affiliates, four to regional shows and 17 sets of Youth medals to Youth divisions. Tall bearded irises were selected most for Best Specimen awards; Louisiana irises were second in number of awards. No Nelson Award was given this year, as there was a tie. Youth Chairman Morris suggested that the Best Youth Specimen of shows be recognized in *Bulletin* show reports.

Foundation Liaison Pettijohn reported that there had been no large gifts but that many memorial gifts had come in. The Foundation trustees had approved one grant to study *i. nelsonii*. Pettijohn noted that the AIS Scholarship Committee could apply for a 3-year grant of \$2,000 each year for the purpose of funding the AIS Scholarship program (if the other Foundation trustees agreed to the grant).

It was noted here that several life memberships had been received during this meeting. It was suggested that Treasurer Nichols be instructed to restart the Restricted Life Membership Fund, with separate accounting, beginning with the first quarter of the new fiscal year.

Historian Harder advised that he has four boxes of catalogs and other data to be sent to the Library headquarters in Silverton, Oregon, as soon as they are ready to receive them. Harder would like to receive all regional publications and those of affiliate clubs. He would like to receive foreign publications also. It was announced that Silverton had acquired land for a new Botanical Garden, but the Board was informed that the land had been acquired by the West Coast Association of Nurserymen.

The Judges and Judges' Training report was given by Chairman Corlew, who had several recommendations. First was that on the Judges Quota listings the term "Transferred in (to a region) judges" and the RVP listings be dropped. These affect the quota. Niswonger so moved, and Smith seconded. Motion carried. Next it was recommended that the Judges' Training sessions at conventions be on a staggered basis and the time cut back to one and one-half hours duration so that judges could attend more than one session. It was the consensus that this should be done. Training sessions at Sacramento are to be held on Tall Bearded, Spurias and Artistic Design. Next Corlew recommended: (1) that Judges' Training sessions be approved in advance by the RVP or by the Regional

Judges' Training Chairman when so authorized by the RVP; (2) that notification is to be sent to the AIS Chm. of Judges and Judges' Training when a session has been approved; notification should list Region, sponsoring group, date, subject, instructor and proposed length; (3) that a report of the Training Session be forwarded to the approving Regional Officer within two weeks following the session; the approving Regional Officer is then to forward the report to the AIS Chairman of Judges and Judges' Training within one week; the report should give the information listed in (2) and include also a list of attendees showing name as given on AIS membership records, type of Judge and the Judge's region; (4) that a written test containing a minimum of 20 questions on areas to be covered by the session must be prepared by, or under the supervision of, the instructor and completed by the attendees at the conclusion of the session; a blank copy of the test is to accompany the report.

Plank moved that these guidelines be approved. Stahly seconded. Motion carried. Corlew concluded with a report on the progress of the new Handbook.

Chairman Miller presented the Membership Contest report. Winner of the 1995 contest for individual members was Kathy Guest of Region 2. The Youth winner was Danika King, Region 18. In first place for the Affiliates was the Chesapeake and Potomac Iris Society. Seventeen individuals from 5 regions and twelve societies from 4 regions participated. A certificate will be sent to all who participated. Many new members are gained by this contest.

Policy Chairman Lowe gave a brief report and then distributed copies of the latest policy index update. Lowe brought up a question concerning an action previously taken concerning pictures of irises. After discussion of the intent of the action Barr asked Aitken, Corlew and Witt to consider the matter and suggest a change in wording later in the meeting.

Public Relations Chairman Waters stated that she would like to establish a resource file of writers, lecturers, Board members, etc., and moved that this be done. Niswonger seconded. Motion carried. Waters reported that the 1996 calendar is ready, and she was applauded for its beauty. It was announced that Ed Wilkinson will be the shipper of the AIS Display Screen and that a new case has been purchased for the screen.

There was a brief recess.

Witt reported for the ad hoc committee appointed earlier to consider the action referred to by Policy Chairman Lowe. That motion, approved at the spring Board meeting, stated, "that color pictures used in AIS publications should be of registered, introduced irises." The committee recommended that the following words be added, "... properly published species, historical cultivars, and those used for illustrative purposes and overall garden shots." Witt so moved, and Corlew seconded. Motion carried.

There was general discussion about possible AIS use of computer on-line service. Barr appointed the following as a committee to gather information about this service, especially as it might pertain to AIS information for Robins and Internet use: Harlow, Mahan, Bob and Jeanne Plank, Mike and Anne Lowe, Claire Honkanen and Bill Smoot (4). Harlow was asked to coordinate the information and report at the spring meeting. Stahly moved that the committee be approved, Niswonger seconded. Motion carried.

Scholarship Chairman Witt reported on inquiries regarding scholarships. She stated that a donation had been received from the Greater St. Louis Iris Society. Witt then recommended that such donations be placed in the Scholarship Fund and used along with money from the General Fund so that the Scholarship Fund's balance each year returns to zero. Mahan so moved. Miller seconded. Motion carried. Following discussion about future funding for scholarships, Mahan moved, Witt seconded, that the existing scientific scholarship policy be amended to include applicants from Canada. Motion carried. Niswonger moved, Smith seconded, that efforts be made toward funding an additional graduate-level scholarship of scientific research restricted to irises but not restricted as to geographic location. Motion carried.

Scientific Committee Chairman Fulton's report was read by Secretary Plank. Fulton stated that the main ongoing activity of the committee is the Disease Project led by Currier McEwen. It would be helpful to the project to have a pathologist as an active participant in the study. Fulton requests that if anyone knows of a person who might be interested he or she should contact Fulton or Dr. McEwen. There have been no significant expenses for the project thus far, but the chairman requests that funds approved in 1993 remain available should they be needed. He concluded by stating his belief that there is too little scientific study on irises. Attached to Fulton's report were comments from the Scientific Committee concerning the scientific publishing policy approved at the spring Board meeting. Barr asked Niswonger, Aitken, Witt and Stahly to review these comments along with the previously approved policy and report findings to the Board whenever possible.

Section Liaison Aitken reported on future mini-conventions planned by the various sections. Scheduled are:

Apr. 12-14, 1996	Louisiana Iris Society	Lafayette, LA
Apr. 30-May 1, '96	Median Iris Society	Portland, OR
June 13-15, 1996	Soc. for Japanese Irises	St. Louis, MO
June 13-15, 1996	Species and Siberians by Iris Soc. of Massachusetts	
June, 1999	Soc. for Japanese Irises	Portland, OR
Year 2000	Siberian Iris Society	Western NY

The Slides Committee report from Chairman Moller was read by Secretary Plank. Moller outlined use of the slides sets during the year and requested that all hybridizers send slides of recent introductions for use in the "Newest in Irises" set. He stated his intent to put together a set which would visually present the subject of Awards and Ballots if the Board thought it would be helpful. Mahan moved that such a set be put together. Pope seconded. Motion carried.

Youth Chairman Jean Morris reported statistics on youth membership. A youth recruitment letter was sent to all affiliate presidents in the summer with positive response. Six regions still do not have a Regional Youth Chairman. Over 100 AIS youth members received free irises this summer from Dr. Charles Price and his grandson (14) and from Ruth Simmons and her granddaughters (22). An AIS coloring contest was held via *The Iris Fan*. The overall winner was Sandra Sekutershi (2). There have been regional, affiliate and individual donations to the Clarke Cosgrove Youth Achievement Fund. Mahan moved that \$200 be presented to the Youth Award winner each year if that amount is available and that any additional funds received be held over until the next year. Niswonger seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting was recessed at 5:00 P.M. for dinner and reconvened at 8:30 P.M.

Reporting for the Committee to Study Awards Guidelines and Policies. Niswonger stated that for the time being the duties of the Awards Committee have been split. Wilhoit makes up and sends the ballots. Bennett and Evelyn Jones are responsible for the tabulation. There was discussion of the fact that there is now only one tall bearded iris on the eligibility list for the Dykes Medal. No action was taken. Bennett and Evelyn Jones were thanked for their help.

Mike Lowe reported for the Committee to Study Liability Insurance. The American Iris Society now holds a Commercial General Liability policy underwritten by Travelers Insurance Co. This coverage is designed to protect the personal assets of AIS members as well as the assets of local chapters, regions, sections and the national society in the event of a claim arising during Society functions. The policy protects the insured against claims from outside parties. The cost will be about \$3,984 per year, depending on the number of AIS members. Lowe asked that there be an Insurance Committee appointed as a standing committee. Barr thanked Lowe and Secretary Plank for their considerable efforts in obtaining this coverage.

For the Committee to Study Non-Profit Incorporation and Tax-Exempt Status for Sections, Regions, and Affiliates, Attorney Robert Plank explained that his firm has agreed to take the AIS as a pro bono client. An agreement has been drawn up and signed by Barr as AIS President. Plank now has Attorney Glen Spain's AIS files, and he stated that Spain had guided the society well. He then outlined those things which still need to be done with regard to completing the move toward incorporation of the sections, regions, and possibly the affiliates, and to drafting charters tailored to each of those organizations that tell the relationship between them and the AIS and that define the relationship for insurance purposes. Plank, along with others of his firm, will assist those groups in completing these moves. He will also research other questions as they arise. A vote of thanks to Plank was expressed by the group.

Mahan reported on the status of the AIS Library. A contract has been secured with the city of Silverton, Oregon, for ten years. Help will be needed from RVPs and others in obtaining contributions for the Library Fund. Mahan proposed that there be established a permanent Library Committee, composed of a chairman elected by the Board and a member of the Board, a person elected as a Director, a person from Region 13, a person elected by the RVPs from the RVPs, and a person elected by the sections from the sections, this committee to be non-reappointed and on a five-year rotation; the first job of the committee would be to write the duties of the committee and decide what kind of catalog system should be used. Mahan so moved. Corlew seconded. Motion carried.

Niswonger reviewed the recently conducted survey concerning the formation of an international iris society. Reaction to the letters and questionnaires sent to many foreign societies and individuals

had been mixed. It was suggested that the European Iris Society be first established as a stepping stone to a World-Wide Iris Association.

At this point, Barr welcomed the new American Iris Society President, O. David Niswonger.

Niswonger called for the election of the remaining officers. The following were duly nominated and elected:

First Vice President	Clarence Mahan
Second Vice President	Harold Stahly
Secretary	Jeanne Clay Plank
Treasurer	Bonnie Nichols
Editor	Terry Aitken

Niswonger then asked for approval of the following appointments:

Registrar	Keith Keppel
Membership Secretary	Marilyn Harlow
Recording Secretary	Betty Burch
Publications Sales Director	C. J. Lack
Advertising Editor	Jean Erickson

Corlew so moved, Aitken seconded. Motion carried.

RVP Counselor Stahly presented the list of recommendations for Regional Vice President appointments for 1996, moving that the following incumbents be approved:

Region 6	Emma C. Hobbs	13	Marky D. Smith
7	Jerry Gifford	14	George Sutton
8	Mrs. Mickey Geifer	15	Bill Rinehart
9	George S. Poole	16	Catherine Boyko
10	Mrs. Hubert Rena	18	Mike Hargrove
11	Oz Reyna	19	Joseph John Griner
12	Cathy Hagen Reed	22	Ron Mullin

Corlew seconded. Motion carried. Stahly then moved that the following new appointments be approved:

Region 1	Dr. Warren C. Hazleton	17	Mrs. David Lamb
		20	Glenna Chapman
2	Kathleen Guest	21	Calvin Reuter
3	Bettie A. Nutter	23	Karen Bergamo
4	Anne Lowe	24	James G. Burch
5	Marshall L. Goforth		

Harder seconded. Motion carried. Stahly expressed thanks to all the retiring RVPs. Niswonger expressed his thanks for the cooperation given to him by the RVPs when he served as Affiliates Chairman. The Publications Sales Director will send Past RVP pins to those retiring RVPs who wish them.

Niswonger asked for approval of the following standing committee appointments:

1	Affiliates	Shirley Pope
2	Awards	Melody Wilhoit
3	Convention Liaison.....	Clarence Mahan
4	Exhibitions	Lillian Gristwood
5	Foundation Liaison	Richard Pettijohn
6	Historical	Larry Harder
7	Honorary Awards	Claire Barr
8	Judges and Judges' Training.....	Glenn Corlew
9	Membership Contest.....	Lynda Miller
10	Policy	Mike Lowe
11	Public Relations	Olive Rice Waters
12	Registrations	Keith Keppel
13	Robins	Libby Cross
14	RVP Counselor	Hal Stahly
15	Scholarship	Jean Witt
16	Scientific.....	Chandler Fulton
17	Section Liaison.....	Terry Aitken
18	Slides.....	Michael Moller
19	Youth	Jean Morris

and as members of the Honorary Awards Committee in addition to the past presidents, and subject to their consent, Allan Ensinger, Dorothy Howard and Bennett Jones.

Waters so moved, Harder seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting recessed at 10:50 PM and reconvened the following day, Sunday, November 5, 1995, at 8:30 AM.

The Board went into Executive Session to consider the reports of the Honorary Awards Committee and the Executive Committee of the British Iris Society, and the recommendations for Emeritus Judge status from the Judges and Judges' Training Chairman. Returning to the regular session, Niswonger announced the following: Hybridizer's Medals were awarded to Frederick W. Gadd, D. C. Nearpass, D. Steve Varner, and to C.E.C. Bartlett of the British Iris Society; Emeritus Judge status was awarded to Hilda Crick, Fred G. Stephenson, Kenneth M. Waite and Phillip A. Williams.

Barr read portions of a letter from P. R. Maynard, President of the British Iris Society, announcing that Bennett Jones has been awarded that society's Foster Memorial Plaque, "... for outstanding contributions to the advancement of the genus iris. . . ."

Niswonger read a letter from AIS member Randy Muir, who suggested that living hybridizers be memorialized by means of a library of video tapes. There was favorable discussion of such a move, with particular emphasis on quality. No action was taken, but the consensus was that there should be a committee made up of persons knowledgeable in this field who could study the matter and make recommendations and that the RVPs could give valuable aid in setting up the project.

RVP Board Representative Smith brought to the Board for consideration a list of proposals from the RVP Board of Counselors, explaining that there seemed to be an increasing interest on the part of the membership in general to participate in the business of the society at the national level and frustration at not being able to do so. For this reason the Board of Counselors had met several times during the past year. Smith respectfully requested the appointment of a committee to review the following proposals and present a recommendation at the April, 1996, meeting in Sacramento:

1. An AIS Director will be elected to one three-year term. At the completion of that term, there will be a one-year complete absence from the Board of Directors before that person is eligible for re-nomination as a Director.

2. The Personnel Committee will become the Personnel/Nominating Committee and be composed of one AIS Director, two Regional Vice Presidents and two Section Representatives.

3. The term of any director which is vacated before completion will be filled from the list of nominees presented by the current Personnel/Nominating Committee. This list of nominees must be larger than the list of vacancies to be filled.

4. Any candidate for election as a Director or an Officer will be excused from the discussion in Executive Session prior to the election. Voting members of the Board of Directors will be allowed to vote.

Related issues to be considered by the committee:

1. Should they be phased in gradually?
2. Should they become effective at some date certain?
3. Should they apply to incumbents?
4. Should they be retroactive?

Following discussion, Niswonger appointed Smith, Chairman, and Terry Aitken, Anne Lowe, Jeanne Plank and Hal Stahly as this committee to study and report findings in the spring. (It was noted, however, that the committee might not have reached a final conclusion at that time.) Corlew so moved. Witt seconded. Motion carried.

Following the suggestion that stationery be provided with the AIS letterhead only, it was the consensus that President Niswonger should receive imprinted AIS Stationery; imprinting for other Officers, Directors, Committee Chairmen and RVPs should be left to the discretion of Secretary Plank.

Plank asked for signatures for the Standard Banking Resolution for change of officers.

The Sacramento convention will be held April 24-28, 1996, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Corlew moved that a vote of thanks be given to the Oklahoma Iris Society for their gracious hospitality at this meeting. Barr seconded. Motion carried with applause.

Stahly moved that the Board express profound gratitude to Claire Barr for her three years of service as president. Witt seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 A.M.

Marilyn Harlow and Claire Barr

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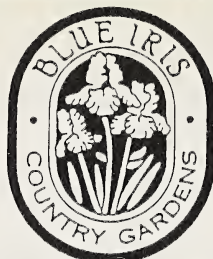
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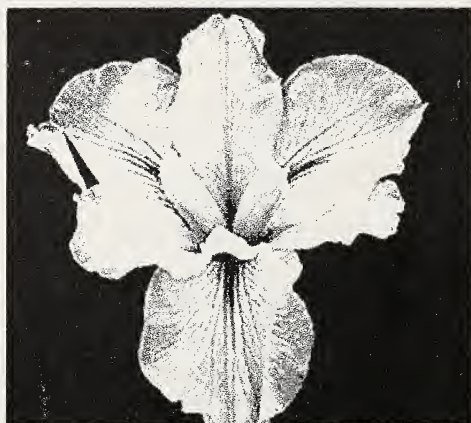
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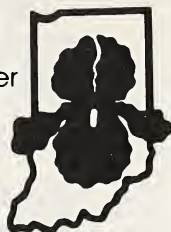


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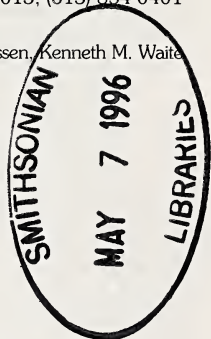


TABLE OF CONTENTS

Hybridizer's Medal Winners	6
Colorado: Request for Guest Irises	10
JIS Convention	11
New RVPs	12
Iris Show Exhibition Techniques	Bonnie Nichols 19
The Need for Iris Research	Jean Witt 22
A Proposal to Establish International Collections of	
Rare Species Irises	G. I. Rodionenko 25
Rating Spurias for Garden Value	Maxine Perkins 27
Hybridizing	Hooker Nichols 31
How Do You Treat a Guest Speaker	Lynda Miller 34
Iris House Mysteries	Ron Mullin 36
Miniature Dwarf Bearded	Ada Godfrey 37
Robin Round Up	Libby Cross 39
1995 Season in Review	Dean Brand 41
Programs, Speakers, and All That	Ron Mullin 49
Iris Postmark Available	Jerry Cathey 51
Space Age Irises: The Future Is Bright	Jim Hedgecock 52
Is It Wise to Make Iris Crosses	Ron Mullin 53
More About Roots	Koen Engelen 55
1996 Membership Contest	Lynda Miller 83
1995 Membership Contest	Lynda Miller 84

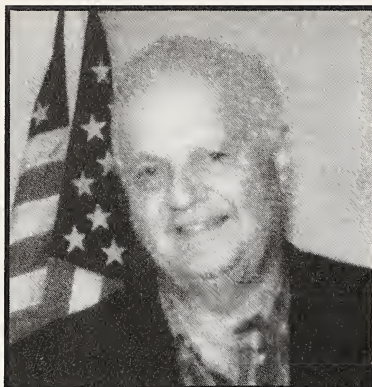
Regular Features

President's Message	4	Contributions to AIS	81
AIS Conventions	9	Contribution Information	82
Design Corner	44	From the Editor	85
AIS Display Screen	45	AIS Sales Items	86
International News	46	Section Conventions	101
AIS Slides to Rent	57	Commercial Directory	108
In Memoriam	72	AIS Membership Rates	124
Bulletin Advertising Rates	77	RVPs	124
Youth Views	78		

Advertisers This Issue

Bridge in Time	87	Lynn Markham	60
Lucy Burton	88	Virginia Messick	96
Cape Iris Garden	90, 91	Mid America Gardens	98
Contemporary Gardens	89	Miller's Manor	99
Cooley's	61, 62, 63, 64	Misty Hill Farm	100
J. & V. Craig	92	Walter Moores	65
D. & J. Garden	93	Ohio Garden	101
Diamonds and Gold International	89	Rainbow Acres	Cover 3
Earthart Gardens	94	Rainbow's End	101
Eon Industries	88	Ed Roberts	95
Garden of East Wind	85	Schreiner's	Cover 2
Carolyn Hawkins	56	Shepard Iris Garden	102
Hermit Medlar's Walk	88	Spanish Fork	103
Sterling Innerst	67	Hal Stahly	96
The Iris Pond	66	Stanley Iris Garden	77
Joe Pye Weed's	95	Superstition Gardens	105
Keith Keppel	Cover 4	Sutton's Green Thumber	104, 105
KiwiPac Tours	95	Varigay Garden	70, 71
Long's	58, 59	Winterberry Garden	68, 69
M.A.D. Garden	97	Zebra Gardens	106, 107

ON THE COVER: A scene from Phil Williams' Rockytop Garden in Tennessee. Photo by Earnest Royal.



From the Desk of the President

Dave Niswonger

Several significant things happened at the fall Board meeting in Oklahoma City. Some of these items were pleasant and some not so pleasant. The dues increase was not so pleasant, but with the cost of paper increasing, and therefore, the cost of the *Bulletin* increasing, along with cash flow problems relative to investment in printed materials and other general increased costs due to inflation since the last dues increase four years ago, it was necessary.

After nine years as the Publication Sales Director, C. J. Lack resigned due to health problems. This is a big job, and we all owe C.J. and Kitty a big "Thank you" for all of their efforts through the years. I was pleased when Jerry Gifford offered to pick up the ball. Jerry got the biggest truck he could rent and filled it full with the help of AIS members from Tulsa and drove from Tulsa to Nashville on Dec. 16. The truck sagged in the middle from the weight, but Jerry made the transfer just fine. C.J. and Kitty helped him adjust to the new job. My thanks goes out to all of them.

The move of the AIS Library was completed to Silverton, Oregon, and a contract was signed with the city. Another vote of "Thanks" goes out to Clarence Mahan for his efforts in completing this task. A Standing Committee has been appointed to establish guidelines and to be involved with the continual development of the library.

It was a pleasure to hear Mike Lowe report that insurance coverage had been achieved for AIS members and affiliates. This should be a great help to local iris societies to give them liability coverage for their shows, sales, and other activities and save them some money too. Further information and proof of coverage can be obtained by writing directly to the company. The details of this can be found elsewhere in the *Bulletin* and through your RVP.

Congratulations are in order for Fred Gadd, D. C. Nearpass, Steve Varner and Cy Bartlett from England for being awarded the Hybridizer's Medal. Where would we be without the efforts of our hybridizers? Bennett Jones is, likewise, to be congratulated for his being awarded the Foster Medal from the British Iris Society. Emeritus Judge status has been accorded to Hilda Crick, Fred Stephenson, Kenneth Waite and Phil Williams for their efforts through the years. Where would the hybridizers be without the counsel, suggestions

and encouragement from our judges? Our congratulations go out to this talented group of Emeritus Judges.

This is the last issue from our *Bulletin* editor, Ron Mullin. Ron's dedication is another example of what makes The American Iris Society what it is today. Ron has been the editor since 1988. I'm sure all of you will join me in giving him a big "Thank You" for thirty-five issues of the *Bulletin*. Again, we have another member willing to pick up the ball, and we thank Terry Aitken for taking on this responsibility.

Upon the recommendation of the RVPs, a committee has been appointed to look into term limits for members of the Board and whether changes in the by-laws need to be considered. We should have a report from this committee at the spring meeting.

It was refreshing (pleasant) to receive the report from Jean Morris about the increased membership and participation of our youth in AIS affairs. Many local clubs have found it rewarding to get more youth involved in growing and showing irises. Some clubs have paid their dues, given them irises and given them encouragement to participate in their activities. Do you know any youth that you could bring into the joys and pleasures of Irisdom?

Many more opportunities are emerging for local societies to finance and support. Jean Witt will be presenting some exciting scholarship possibilities in which clubs might like to participate. Dr. Giorgi Rodionenko presented at the "Gardening with Iris Species" Symposium at St. Louis last March, the idea of the establishment of a "Rare Iris Study Center" made up of botanists, hybridizers, amateur gardeners and professional horticulturists interested in the preservation of a gene pool of rare iris species. Along the same line, Sergey Loktev and Michael Diev of the Central Iris Society of Moscow have developed a plan for searching out known iris species that are rare and in some instances lost. Dr. Rodionenko informs us that there are four or more botanists from Russia willing to conduct expeditions in search of rare species and perhaps even discover new species that are now unknown. It was exciting to hear his report on these possibilities.

Another possible project for a local affiliate or region was suggested by Randy Meuir of the Greater St. Louis Iris Society, and that is to finance a video of famous iris people from your group. I've asked Roger Mazur to prepare some guidelines on how this could be done in a professional way. A copy could be filed with the new AIS Library. Some societies have already done this.

Conducting a survey on the interest of establishing a World Iris Association was an enlightening experience for me. About eighty letters were sent to iris specialists and societies around the world. My report is printed in the January *Bulletin*.

Now is the time to enjoy the beauty of the iris. This enjoyment is available in your own garden, at the shows, regional and local tours, at the Median Fix in Portland, at the Japanese Iris meeting in St. Louis, the species and Siberian meeting in Massachusetts and the AIS meeting in Sacramento. Have fun fun fun!

HYBRIDIZER'S MEDAL WINNERS

C. E. C. "Cy" Bartlett

Cy Bartlett has been hybridizing irises in England for many years. His latest accomplishment was being awarded the Souvenir de M. Lemon Trophy by the British Iris Society for PALE SHADES, an SDB introduced in 1992. He also won this trophy in 1994 for BRONZAIRE, an IB registered in 1991 at which time it had won the AM at Wisley.

In 1994 Cy received the British Dykes Medal for ORINOCO FLOW, a Border Bearded iris which was introduced in 1993. As a seedling, it was commended at Wisley in 1986. It was then registered in 1989. It also won the Adriana Gardi Cup at Florence, Italy for the best Border Bearded iris in 1992.

Cy has worked primarily in the hybridization of SDBs, IBs, BBs, and Tall Bearded irises. He has even been so bold as to work on the pink amoenas and bicolours for which Barry Blyth is known. His interest in all types of irises is well known.

Through the years he has been the primary organizer of the outstanding international events held at Somerset College of Horticulture at Cannington, England. The celebration of the 70th Anniversary of the formation of the British Iris Society was an especially memorable occasion. He has served as Vice Principal at this college for several years. He retired from that institution two or three years ago and is now working for the government as a Consultant on National Educational Standards for Horticulture.

It is almost a foregone conclusion that we will see many more outstanding introductions from this famous English Hybridizer.

Dr. D. C. Nearpass

Dr. D. C. "Charlie" Nearpass began hybridizing irises in 1958 and undertook an in-depth study of iris genetics. From the beginning, he set for himself the goal of only allowing an iris of his to be introduced if it represented a notable advancement in quality or distinction. Despite his raising of thousands of seedlings over the past 37 years, he has rigorously avoided deviating from this criterion.

It is Dr. Nearpass's adherence to the highest criteria of excellence that has limited the number of his introductions. Of the 14 tall bearded irises he has allowed to be introduced, eight have won the Honorable Mention, and four have attained the Award of Merit: LORD BALTIMORE (1978); DOVER BEACH (1979); SPINNING WHEEL (1981); and PURPLE PEPPER (1992).

The enduring quality of Nearpass irises is evidenced by their exceptional popularity both with the members of AIS in general and the many hybridizers who have incorporated them in their own breeding programs.

In 1974, LORD BALTIMORE was voted by AIS members to be one of the 100 most popular irises as reflected in the Tall Bearded Symposium. When DOVER BEACH joined it on the Symposium in 1979, there were two Nearpass irises among the top 100 most popular irises. And ever since

then there have been at least two, and often three Nearpass irises on that list. SPINNING WHEEL went on in 1983, and PURPLE PEPPER in 1992. The irises of very few hybridizers have achieved such outstanding levels of recognition.

Nearpass irises have been used in the breeding lines of a multitude of hybridizers, and some of the offspring of Nearpass irises have gone on to achieve high awards. EVERYTHING PLUS (Niswonger 84), a child of SPINNING WHEEL, attained the Dykes Medal.

Dr. Nearpass has continued his hybridizing program and has some outstanding seedlings that will be allowed to be introduced in future years. One of his most diligent efforts has been developing improved tetraploid miniature tall bearded irises by going back to work with species, particularly *iris aphylla*. In the course of doing this, he has also developed a number of MTB seedlings which dependably rebloom.

D. Steve Varner

In Steve Varner's over 30 years of hybridizing irises, he has had over 70 HMs, 7 Award of Merit winners, and over 30 High Commendations.

His MISS ILLINI (TB) was a runner-up for the Dykes Medal and in the SBD class, he has won at least two AMs for BANTAM and BETTY WOOD. His shining star has come from his hybridizing work in Siberian irises. In 1959 his cross of CAESER'S BROTHER by self resulted in the very dark TEALWOOD. It won the Morgan Award in 1964 and is in the parentage behind many fine Siberian irises with Currier McEwen's beautiful SHIRLEY POPE and Ken Waite's LAUGHING BROOK being just two of many. He has also won the Morgan Award in 1983 for ANN DASCH, DANCE BALLERINA DANCE in 1989 and KING OF KINGS in 1990.

As a hybridizer he took his ILLINI ENCORE (a TEALWOOD child x SNOWCREST) and used it to introduce SHOWDOWN in 1975 and KING OF KINGS in 1982. His SHOWDOWN has been used by many other hybridizers. It is one of the parents behind four of the last five Morgan Wood Award winners. Calvin Helsley used it in his MABEL CODAY, Award winner 1991, and Robert Hollingworth used SHOWDOWN as pollen parent behind his 1992, 1993, 1994 winners, LADY VANESSA, JEWELLED CROWN and SULTAN'S RUBY.

His hybridizing efforts have given us median-sized Siberians with the most famous being PRECIOUS DOLL, 1987, a Siberian that always stays small.

In 1994 at the AIS Convention in Portland, the Franklin Cook Cup was won by STRAWBERRY FAIR, another of SHOWDOWN'S offspring.

Frederick W. Gadd

Fred's first tall bearded introduction, RISING FAWN, was registered in 1961 and introduced in 1963, having received as a seedling both the HC award and the William J. McKee Memorial Medal, a special award provided by the McKee family to be awarded to an outstanding seedling of a Region One hybridizer. The award was available for a period of ten years from 1959

through 1969, but the requirements were strict, and the medal was actually awarded only eight times during that period. Fred's first *arilbred* introduction, SILVER WEB, a lovely light blue, also received the McKee Medal prior to its introduction, making Fred the only hybridizer to have won this special award twice.

During the period from 1961 through 1988, Fred registered approximately 70 bearded irises, most of which have been introduced and many of which have been highly successful garden plants. One of the 1988 registrations, the aril-median PATRIOT'S GEM, received a resounding seven votes for HC in 1992 and is being introduced. There are still seedlings under consideration, and Fred is still making a few new crosses!

Nationally, Fred's tall bearded irises have received perhaps less attention than was merited, partly because they haven't been heavily promoted commercially and partly because in his hybridizing goals, Fred has heard "a different drummer," pushing not for increased size of blossom and more intense decoration, but for what he likes to call "strength" (the ability to withstand the capricious New England climate and to produce good increase and generous bloom), a quality he absolutely insists upon. Still, there has been national recognition for some of his fine tall bearded creations. HMs were awarded to YANKEE BOY in 1970, YANKEE MAID in 1977, TOP BANANA in 1980, and CHARTER OAK and GARNET SPORT in 1983. It is significant that in the year (1983) when the National Convention was held in New England, Fred's irises had no trouble gaining national recognition, and it points up the fact that lack of distribution, rather than lack of quality, has kept many of the fine Gadd tall beardeds from reaching the top of the awards lists.

Very early on, Fred became fascinated with the exotic beauty of the arils, which of course "could not be grown" in New England. "Can't" is not one of Fred's favorite words, and he set out to incorporate their beauty into plants which *would* perform reliably in this difficult climate, built a cold frame in which to house the tender parent stock, and initiated crosses aimed at producing cold-hardy arilbreds. The first of these were SILVER WEB and LAKE MATTAWA, both TB in stature, both blues, and both from crosses of CAPITOLA on reliably hardy seedlings involving SPANISH PEAKS and JANE PHILLIPS. Both of these lovely blues received the HM award in 1968.

Many of the Gadd arilbreds are medians, not so much because Fred was focused on producing medians, but because he considered the Warburton dwarf irises to be an important source of the necessary vigor and toughness! SIZZLE, introduced in 1978, is such a plant. It received its HM in 1980 and won the coveted William Mohr award in 1983. Another outstanding median is BUCHEE, which won its HM in 1987 and was second runner-up to the Mohr award winner in 1992.

The continuity of Fred's success with his arilbred project is nothing short of astonishing. Of the 32 arilbreds introduced from 1967 through 1990, no less than 27 have received the HM award, including both his earliest (SILVER WEB and LAKE MATTAWA—HM 1968) and his most recent (BOZRAH—HM 1992)! Of course the Mohr Award, which until now has been an AM equivalent, has been available to only *one* iris each year. I think it can be said

with some confidence that if these plants had been eligible for the Award of Merit, several of them would have achieved that distinction.

It should be pointed out that Fred not only has carried out two separate but simultaneous hybridizing programs, both with far more than average success, but has accomplished this in an ordinary back yard where only hundreds, not thousands of seedlings could be grown.



D. Steve Varner



D. C. Nearpass



Fred Gadd



Cy Bartlett

American Iris Society Conventions

1997	Dearborn, MI	June 3-7
1998	Denver, CO	June 2-6
1999	Oklahoma City, OK	May 4-8
2000	Dallas, TX	April 16-20

Fall Board Meetings

1996	Colorado Springs, CO	November 1-3
1997	Austin, TX	
1998	Bedford, MA	

COLORADO '98 REQUEST FOR BEARDED GUEST IRISES

Region 20 will be hosting the 1998 Convention of The American Iris Society. The Guest Iris Committee invites hybridizers to send guest rhizomes of recent introductions and seedlings of bearded irises under consideration for introduction.

Please observe the following guidelines when you send guest irises:

1. Up to three rhizomes of each variety should be shipped.
2. The guest irises will be accepted from July 1 to August 31, 1996.
3. All official guest irises must be shipped to:

(via UPS)

or

(via USPS)

Cathy and Dennis Gates

Cathy and Dennis Gates

c/o Long's Gardens

c/o Long's Gardens

3240 Broadway

P.O. Box 19

Boulder, Colorado 80304

Boulder, Colorado 80306

tel. (303) 442-2353

4. The name of the variety or seedling number should be clearly marked on each rhizome. In addition, the following information should accompany each plant on a SEPARATE PACKING LIST.
 - A. Hybridizer's name and address.
 - B. Name or seedling number of the variety.
 - C. Type of iris (SDB, IB, TB, etc.).
 - D. Height, color, and bloom season (E,M,L,).
 - E. Year of introduction (if introduced).
5. If a guest seedling is named, it will be the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the Guest Iris Chairman not later than Dec. 1, 1997.
6. A receipt will be mailed to all contributors. Shortly before the convention, contributors will be asked for instructions regarding the distribution of the plants. Failure to reply by June 15, 1998, will be interpreted as permission to destroy all stock. All official guest plants which are to be returned will be shipped postpaid, except to foreign addresses.
7. The Convention Committee and the owners of the tour gardens will follow the Code of Ethics as printed in the AIS Convention Handbook.
8. The Guest Iris Committee will not be responsible for losses beyond its control, and only irises received through the Guest Iris Chairman will be listed in the convention booklet.

You're Invited to the **1996 Society for Japanese Irises Annual Convention and Garden Tour**

in St. Louis, MO June 13-15

Hosted by the Greater St. Louis Iris Society



It's a unique opportunity to "Meet Them in St. Louis"...

The newest innovations in spectacular Japanese iris beauties, in the convenient Heartland! When your bearded iris season is over, along comes a once-in-a-lifetime chance to see **six gardens featuring guest Japanese irises** in St. Louis. (And yes, they come in dazzling pinks, blues, and yellows, too!) The largest planting is at Missouri Botanical Garden, and three hours will be allowed for you to see this botanical jewel (by tram if desired) and the lovely 12-acre Japanese garden it boasts.

Your registration fee of \$85 includes bus transportation to tour gardens on two days, two dinners and a lunch, plus a slide show by banquet speaker Shirley Paquet, a Japanese Iris Flower Show, auction, and judge's training conducted by well-known hybridizer Lorena Reid.

It's easy to get to Convention headquarters—the **Best Western Westport Park Hotel** is right off I-270 (the Outer Belt) at Dorsett. From the airport, a free shuttle runs the 10-minute drive on demand. **Rooms will be available at special rates of \$58 per night until May 31**, or \$62 later. Call the hotel directly for room reservations: **314-291-8700** or **1-800-528-1234** or write: 2434 Old Dorsett Rd. Maryland Heights, MO 63043 and mention that you're attending the SJI Convention.

Program

Thursday, June 13

1-9 p.m. Registration; 5-7 p.m. Welcome Buffet; 7-? p.m. Slide Show

Friday, June 14

Registration; 8-10 a.m. show entries accepted; 10 a.m.-12 noon show judging;
1-5 p.m. tour two gardens; 8-10 p.m. Judges Training—Lorena Reid

Saturday, June 15

8 a.m.-12 noon garden tours; 12:00 group lunch (provided); 1-4:30 p.m. garden
tours; 6:30 p.m. Banquet (provided) with Featured Speaker Shirley Paquet;
8 p.m. Japanese Iris Auctions with Auctioneer Mark Dienstbach

My check for \$_____ is enclosed.

(\$85 per person until May 31, or \$100 per person thereafter.)

Please make check payable to *Greater St. Louis Iris Society*

Mail check to: Annabelle Wiseman, Registrar
500 West Highway N., Wentzville, MO 63385

For further information, call Annabelle at: 314-327-8018
or Convention Chairman Don Delmez at: 314-724-4274

MEET THE NEW REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

WARREN HAZELTON

Region 1

Warren has lived all of his life in Central Maine, except for his years in medical school at George Washington University in the early sixties. He began his family practice in 1966 and has now delivered some 5,000 babies.

In 1970, while driving home from church services, Warren and his wife, Marie, passed the home of Bernard McLaughlin, where an iris auction was being held, and they wondered what an iris auction could possibly be. Their curiosity was soon satisfied, and in a couple of years, they were participating in their first iris show in Auburn, Maine.

Warren and Marie are members of the Maine Iris Society, the Iris Society of Massachusetts, the Median Iris Society, Society for Siberian Irises, Japanese Iris Society, SIGNA, and the Dwarf Iris Society.

While Marie's interests are primarily in TBs and Japanese irises, Warren's interests are in median, dwarf, and Japanese irises. They grow about 1,500 varieties on their two acres in Norway, Maine. As with many other members of the AIS, vegetable gardens get smaller each year while the iris collections get larger.

Warren has recently begun an interest in crossing for dwarf irises.

He has interested many of his patients in growing irises over the years by taking bags into his office and distributing them to those who are interested, along with instructions on iris culture.

Besides medicine and iris growing, Warren's other special interests are in his work as an elder in the Church of Christ, and he has a special interest in performing in musical theatre (roles now limited to those of older men with less hair).

KATHY GUEST

Region 2

Although I have always had my grandmother's irises, which I took with me wherever I moved, I had no idea that AIS even existed until 1983 when I started a new job as Executive Secretary at a community hospital. One of the members of the hospital's Board of Directors, Jim Burke, was RVP of our Region at that time and during an incidental conversation, he offered me a "few rhizomes." That was 13 years and 400 plants ago! I was fortunate to have him as my mentor—attentive in teaching me the fine points of iris growing, showing and even hybridizing.

I now grow 400 irises on a small suburban lot. Although the majority of these are bearded, I have a special fondness for Japanese and Siberian irises, and my collection is growing in those types. I'm also experimenting with Louisianas and some of the wide crosses that are becoming available. In addition to the irises, I'm a collector of daylilies, hostas, primroses and heucheras.

I served as Chairman of the WNY iris club for four years and am currently its editor. I am Membership Chair for the Empire State Iris Society (Region 2) and Judges' Training Chair as well. Last year I was appointed Publicity Chair for the Society for Japanese Irises, and as of this writing, I am a nominee to the Board of the Siberian Iris Society. In addition, I serve on the Board of the Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens and chair its Marketing Committee.

I have been in western New York all my life, although I think it's a cruel joke that an obsessive gardener should live in this climate. I am married to Leonard, a Technology teacher, and have two grown children, Jennifer and Troy.

I am very honored to be elected RVP, and I look forward to working with all the incredible people we have in this organization. Region 2 has been growing—and I hope to be able to continue that growth, while keeping our group interesting and *fun*.

BETTIE NUTTER

Region 3

Hello! My name is Bettie Nutter and I was born and reared in West Virginia where I learned to love flowers of all kinds from my mother and grandmother. My grandmother was rather tolerant when all the grandchildren were playing in and around her flowers except it was clearly understood that NO ONE got near her dahlias. My mother's favorite flower, though, was the iris, and she was even less tolerant if anyone broke them. Back then mothers might spank their favorite offspring, but grandmothers didn't.

Don and I were married in 1952, and even when living in apartments, we managed to find space for growing a few flowers. We moved to Pittsburgh in 1959, and shortly after, we bought our first home. That's when the growing of flowers began in earnest. We spent some time in South Bend, Indiana, Greenville, South Carolina, and Pittsburg, California, but we always came back to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and here we will probably stay. Our love for all kinds of flowers has grown and so have the flower beds. We have been asked who designed our garden, and for the life of me, I can't decide if they are just being nice or are trying for a subtle sarcasm since the beds just grew from necessity.

We have been active in the Pittsburgh Iris and Daylily Society for about 9 years and the AIS for about 7 or 8 years. We have enjoyed the people, the club and all of the different kinds of irises that I have discovered just waiting for me to try. We are both retired now, which gives us more time for doing what we like. (Whom am I kidding?) We are trying to get as many different kinds of irises that will grow in our area as possible, because I am tired of people telling me that iris are beautiful but they only bloom for a couple of weeks in May and then are gone. I've already gotten a few startled looks with miniatures in early spring and rebloomers in September and October. I once decided to shake up some flower judges by entering a rebloomer (Sign of Leo) in my Garden Club's flower show in September. It worked too. I was the top winner.

There are a number of things that we have thought we would like to try someday, and as the notion strikes us, we try them. If we enjoy it, we will continue, time permitting; if not—well, at least we tried. And then, of course, we always have our flowers.

ANNE LOWE

Region 4

I am closer to 70 than I would like to admit since the great Depression and I arrived the same year. Although I was born in Rochester, New York, I was raised in Southside, Virginia, where I have lived—off and on—since I was 2. I am wife to Mike, mother to Alan, Hannah, and Eric and grandmother to Thomas, Amelia, and Maggie.

I graduated from Randolph-Macon Woman's College in 1950, decided I wanted to work with people instead of test tubes and completed Physical Therapy training in Boston in 1952. I have since worked in a variety of health care settings. My specialty is Geriatric Rehabilitation, and I now cover a 5 county area for a Home Health Agency.

I have grown irises since the early '50s, aided and abetted by (1) my Aunt June who, at the age of 85, had to give up her iris garden and (2) my mother who, at 94, is one of the oldest consulting rosarians in the U.S. I hated getting my fingers stuck and loathed Japanese beetles, so I opted for iris early on. I bought my first rhizome in 1953 when I was so pregnant I could hardly bend to put it in the ground. I was a Navy wife and, as Mike and I moved around, we left a trail of irises everywhere we lived. We saw lots of "blue flags" when we lived in Scotland, but one of my biggest regrets is that we didn't know to look up the Florence plantings during our 3 years in Italy. We returned to Southside, Virginia and our circa 1850 farmhouse in 1973 and soon became involved in all forms of iris activities.

My specific iris interests include Siberians, historic cultivars, and medians (especially IBs). Among the approximately 1,200 iris cultivars that we grow are a large number of irises dating before 1940 which are rare and/or historically important; we also grow 250 Siberians, many of which are also antique. Our iris patch is on the official display garden listing for both the Historic and Median Iris Societies.

I have been actively involved in iris society affairs at all levels: I am a Charter Member of three Region 4 Iris Societies and have served in a number of capacities in all of them; I have served as Region 4 Robin Chairman, Co-editor of Region 4 *News*cast and Assistant RVP; I was the founding President of the Historic Iris Preservation Society, and have been Editor of its publication, *ROOTS*, since 1988; I have served as co-Registrar for both National and Section Conventions and as Chairman of the AIS Personnel Committee. In my current capacity as RVP, I am serving on the AIS Library Committee and on the RVP Proposal Study Committee. In my spare time I love to read (fiction of all types), knit, and cook.

As RVP of the second largest region in AIS, I want to see us grow, not only in numbers, but in promoting the iris as a perennial that should be in every garden. Our members boast a wealth of iris knowledge and experience, and

it will be my goal to make this information available to as many irisarians as want it. To this end I will work to help Region 4 develop a "stable" of iris trainers who "Have Program, Will Travel."

MARSHALL GOFORTH

Region 5

Marshall was born and raised on a farm in Cherokee County, South Carolina. After graduating from high school, he graduated from Gardner-Webb University and Limestone College where he majored in business administration. On the day of graduation he received his draft notice for the U.S. Army. He served two years, one in the Republic of Vietnam. He went into the teaching field for a short time before taking a position as payroll auditor for the Timken Company for over twenty-three years.

He is married to Pam Love for over twenty-one years. They have two daughters, Tammy age 20, and Marie age 17. His interest began at a very early age in growing things. He remembers going to his grandmother's iris garden and seeing the beautiful flags. He still grows some of her antique irises. Marshall is a master gardener, secretary of the local farmers' market association, life member of the Garden Club of South Carolina and has organized a local garden club. He is a volunteer for the local children's home where he maintains an iris garden for the children to enjoy.

Marshall has been past president of his local iris society, show chairman, and on many other committees. He is working on the Region 5 publicity committee, as well as assistant RVP for the past three years. He grows over 500 varieties in his Green River iris garden. He enjoys meeting people and, by far, thinks irisarians are the best people in the world.

PEGGY LAMB

Region 17

I remember that, even as a small child, I was interested in flowers, particularly my next door neighbor's, which I picked and brought home with distressing frequency. I soon learned better manners, but I never outgrew my appreciation for the beautiful blooms in his garden. He grew hyacinths, peonies, lilies and roses, but his irises were what captured my heart. They bloomed in lush profusion, in colors I had never seen. The Brown Thumb Gene which was, by all evidence, dominant in my family, discouraged me from even attempting to grow them myself. Years later, my mother, Dorothy Evans, and I attended an iris show put on by the Iris Society of Dallas, and my mother made a leap of faith by investing in two rhizomes, STEPPING OUT and RIPPLING WATERS, purchased from a mail-order bulb company. They grew, and when they bloomed, they looked as good as the pictures in the catalogue. At the next iris show we were referred to Leon and Edith Wolford. On their recommendations, we purchased such "old reliables" as DEBBY RAIRODON, ROCOCO, HIGH SIERRA, SUNSET SHADOWS, and CHERUB CHOIR, and we accepted their gracious invitation to become members of the Iris Society of Dallas and The American Iris Society. Later, Leon and Edith

urged us to enter the judges' training program. Their encouragement and friendship have been a cherished part of our lives.

My husband David and I are both native Dallasites, and we met and married while attending the University of Texas at Austin. We returned to the Dallas area where David was employed for several years as a toxicologist with the Texas Department of Public Safety. David is currently employed as an environmental specialist with TU Electric. We have one son, Michael, and he and his wife have two beautiful daughters who seem to share their Granny's love of irises. My husband and I have been active members of the Iris Society of Dallas for sixteen years, and we are both life members of The American Iris Society.

In addition to my iris activities, I am a Master Gardener, trained through the County Extension Service, and a member of Altrusa, a women's service organization. I am also a member of the Dallas Genealogical Society, and I recently completed a book on ten generations of Curtis family history, one branch of my family tree. I care for my granddaughters while my daughter-in-law is at work, and I enjoy reading and painting with water colors in my spare time.

GLENNA CHAPMAN

Region 20

HAPPY BIRTHDAY started it all. The first pink iris I had ever seen! The year was 1968, and I had just given birth to my son, David; appropriately, on Mother's Day. Who would have guessed that this then lovely, pink flower would begin a love for irises that would stay with me all of my life.

A native of the "mile-high" city of Denver, Colorado, I now live near the foothills outside of Sedalia with Tasha and Shannon, my canine companions and Pandora, the cat with mouse notches on her collar. It is here I continue to grow irises on a 5-acre "little slice of country." Iris beds spread happily across the terrain, and nearly 200 guest irises will be planted this year for the 1998 AIS convention in Colorado.

In the early '70s, I attended "Metro" State College, Denver's first urban college without a campus. An innovative concept at the time, most students were like myself, working, raising young families and attending college. Graduation in the field of mental health finally came as a result of a double major—management of human services and drug/alcohol counseling. Twenty-five years as a clinical therapist at the local Institute for Mental Health has consumed my work career.

In addition to growing irises and raising three incredibly amazing children, I and my grandson, Bobby, collect Star Trek figures and spaceships. My year old granddaughter, Tylynn, will soon be helping to pick the flowers! Other interests include quarter horses and Peruvian pasos, excellent films, extensive reading and collecting gardening books. Did I mention my grandchildren?

Joining the iris society in the early '80s, active involvement began a decade later when I entered my first show in 1990. Co-chairing the annual sale and serving on the board of directors were forerunners for what was to come. This year brings the role of sale chairperson and the responsibilities as new RVP for Region 20. With an energetic board of directors, I enter 1996 with vigor and commitment to promote our love of iris through training and education.

What happened to old HAPPY BIRTHDAY?? This faithful and hearty flower has moved with me more times than I can count and continues to be one of the first tall bearded iris that greets me in May, along with my son's own "HAPPY BIRTHDAY."

CALVIN REUTER

Region 21

Calvin was born and raised on a farm, and except for two years in the army during 1951-1953, he has spent his life on a farm in Nebraska. During his younger days his family changed churches. It was in his Sunday School class that he met a girl named Luetta, whom he married in 1950. Now retired, he has more time to travel and enjoy various iris gardens, which he is doing.

Irising for Calvin began in the early nineteen eighties with the purchase of six irises from Roger Nelson's "Iris Country" in nearby Wayne, Nebraska. The following spring they all greened up beautifully, then on two of them the fans became smaller and smaller, yes they had frost heaved, and died. This must have triggered a challenge as more irises were purchased from "Iris Country," and "Bumble Bee Gardens" of Jim Hummel in Wayne the following year. The iris were mulched and none were lost. This meager beginning of a hobby raising irises has led to over 1,500 different tall bearded and median irises grown in what is called "Spruce Gardens." The irises, with grass walkways, now cover a former small cattle feedlot. Calvin belongs to the Elkhorn Valley Iris Society of Norfolk, Nebraska and the Siouxland Iris Society of Sioux City, Iowa.

KAREN BERGAMO

Region 23

My love of irises started at a very early age. My mother, Louise Kuykendall, bought some irises from Schreiners. I remember the one named GRAND CANYON. As a child, the \$5.00 she spent seemed an enormous amount, and we awaited spring eagerly to see if the extravagance was worthwhile. It grew, it bloomed, and I was "hooked."

After marrying fairly young and being in college what seemed like years and years, we finally had our own house, and I was able to grow a few irises. When we moved to New Mexico in 1982 I went to New Mexico Iris Society's annual sale. I spent every dollar I had in my wallet on irises. I wanted every one; they all sounded pretty. It was the next year that I realized I didn't know what was what because I hadn't tagged them, and I wanted to know what each one was. I had not thought that I would care, I was just growing them because they were pretty. I did care.

I joined the New Mexico Iris Society and became an active member almost immediately. The club was friendly, helpful and fun. I started as Corresponding Secretary for NMIS, an office I am repeating this year. I have also served as a Board Member and as President of NMIS. However, I belong to a number of other clubs as well; Reblooming Iris Society, HIPS, Spuria and two local societies, The Iris Guild and Santa Fe Iris Society. I am currently president of

the Albuquerque Iris Society and am General Secretary for Aril Society International. I have also served as Youth Chair and Assistant RVP for Region 23.

I am currently growing a bit of everything. I started with tall bearded, then came the medians. I branched out to arils and aril-breds later. When we did our landscaping and put in a pond, I put in some species and Louisianas. Then, two years ago I started my spurias. I'm out of room now. Unless John gives up the small lawn, I have nowhere to grow anything else.

I've enjoyed so many regional conventions in Colorado, Arizona and Texas. I was ecstatic to be able to go to Ft. Worth to my first national convention. I was "hooked" all over again.

I became an AIS Judge as soon as I could. I finished my student training in one year and my apprentice training the next year. I was so fortunate to be recommended by a number of Master Judges. I have always tried to take every class that I can. Being a judge for AIS is important to me, and I always feel that I get something from each class I take. I have taken several different classes, for instance, on tall bearded. Each instructor has new aspects or information to impart. I always keep learning. I always will.

I have an active life outside of irises. I am a wife, mother, and a grandmother. My husband and I like to fish, camp, and get away from it all when we can. I read avidly, sew, and do needlepoint. I also still manage to work full time, although it does tend to interfere with my iris tripping occasionally.

JIMMY BURCH

Region 24

Jimmy Burch assumed the responsibilities of the Regional Vice President of Region 24 upon the death of Joe Christopher last summer. Jimmy has served his local club and The American Iris Society in many capacities. He served on the AIS Board of Directors, served as Membership Secretary and Exhibitions Chairman. He has taught Judges' Training throughout the country. He has written articles for various iris publications and presented programs to many iris groups. In 1989, the AIS Board of Directors awarded Jimmy the Distinguished Service Medal for his services to the Society.

He helped his mother in her iris rows as a small child. He planted his first rhizomes over 30 years ago and was hooked when he won his first ribbon in a show. Shortly thereafter, his iris patch increased in size until he had over a thousand varieties. In recent years, the number has decreased because of work demands. (Jimmy is a division chief in the U.S. Army THAAD Project Office and much travel is required.)

His work with irises has resulted in several awards. FROSTY JEWELS received the President's Cup in 1979; MISS NELLIE received the Knowlton Medal; SOUTHLAND GRAPE, FROSTY JEWELS, and MISS NELLIE won Awards of Merit. Several of his introductions have been awarded HMs, the most recent was TIMBERWIND this year.

Jimmy was born in Wayne County in eastern North Carolina. He graduated magna cum laude from the University of Alabama in Huntsville and has worked for the U.S. Army for 37 years. He and Betty have been married for 37 years and have one daughter, Carol.

IRIS SHOW EXHIBITION TECHNIQUES

Bonnie J. Nichols (Texas)

Living in the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex offers several opportunities to enter specimens in annual iris shows. Usually six iris shows or more are presented in this area each spring. Medians, bearded, and beardless irises are all shown and over 100 enthusiastic iris lovers compete for the annual show awards.

Iris people fall into three broad categories: Those who grow irises as garden plants to supply beautiful flowers each spring in their home garden; There is the group who grow irises simply to cut the stalks and enter them in exhibition competition in various shows, so they can bring home ribbons, rosettes, and cumbersome trophies and trays that have to be cared for throughout the ensuing year; The third group is made up of the iris hybridizers who want to win best seedlings rosettes at the annual iris shows.

Our family consists of one member who just loves to enter specimens in iris shows, and the other member who prefers to enter only the seedling competition. The hybridizer half of the team annually gives a lengthy list of "hands off" cultivars which cannot be cut for show exhibition. All other blooming specimens are fair game for show competition.

Ultimately, it boils down to how well an exhibitor has expertly grown and cultivated the show specimens. Irises must be kept watered while their stalks are emerging from the plant rhizomes. As the branching placement is revealed, one must learn how to manipulate the developing stalk if it appears that branches will be too close to the stalk itself. Rolled newspaper or small medicine bottles can act as wedges to force branches away from the main stem of the stalk. One may have to attend daily to the "wedges" to be sure that they have not slipped out of place and allowed the developing branch to return to its normal growth habits.

If your iris season tends to be a touch on the wet side, leaf spot must be controlled to prevent the foliage from becoming unsightly. Annual spring and autumn clean-up of spent foliage can alleviate a lot of leaf spot problems, but aphids can be a "big" problem, and they readily spread leaf spot throughout the garden. We use the insecticide "Maverick" to control aphids in the garden throughout the year. No one likes to see an iris specimen in the annual show ruined by unsightly leaf spot.

Irises tend to bloom earlier in areas where there are a lot of structures and evening lights. If your favorite flower is planted too close to your house, the heat from the house during the evening hours will make the plants bloom at least several days earlier than the same cultivar planted way out in the garden away from structures and concrete driveways. All of our commercial planting is illuminated by strong yard lights each evening, thus making our bloom about seven days earlier than other growers.

No matter what you plan, the weather determines what happens to your bloom each year. If the season is late, a good dose of "Miracle Grow" will speed the stalk development up somewhat. If the weather turns cold and rainy, the developing stalks will just sit there and refuse to grow until it gets warm enough.

An impending bout of severe weather can strike fear in the heart of any iris exhibitor. In our part of the country, if the forecast is for "severe" weather the day before the iris show, you can pretty well count on having it occur. Try to leave every stalk you plan to exhibit out in the garden on the plant until the very last moment. Irises look much better if they are allowed to naturally open in the garden. Sometimes they just don't open right once they have been cut and taken inside and put under air conditioning or forced heat air circulation.

A specimen with only one open flower can be judged "Best Specimen of the Show." More often than not, we all know that many judges prefer two or three open flowers on a best specimen stalk. This is the place where the most important technique of exhibition judging comes into play. Every iris grower who has ever entered an iris show has heard the word "grooming." This isn't some alien word which has an unclear meaning. It is the very essence which separates the experienced iris exhibitors from the inexperienced iris exhibitors. Flower show judges will tell you, "If it ain't groomed correctly, it ain't gonna win a darn blue ribbon!" How true that statement is when one visits an iris show. The exhibitor who went the extra mile to properly groom his or her specimen is the one who reaps the show awards.

To properly groom iris show specimens, the following items are a must for every exhibitor. A plastic or Rubbermaid tackle box, a sharp knife, a "lot" of Q-Tips, one film canister (for water), sharp manicure scissors, rubber bands, entry tags, cosmetic brush and loose facial powder. Make sure that you have several rolls of cheap paper towels to wrap around cut stems as you carry them to place the cut stalks in bottles for transportation to the preparation area.

One of the first heated discussions I had with my husband in the garden involved his placement of several unsightly finger prints on cut stems. He simply solved that problem by removing "all" the white natural film off the cut stalk being discussed so that it could be carried and not any finger prints would be seen. It took me half an hour to "replace" the natural film on the stalk with my cosmetic brush and "magic" touch. He now uses paper towels to carry the stalks to their bottles so finger prints won't appear.

The sharp knife is used to sever the stalk at the base of the plant where it emerges from the rhizome. Once you cut the stalk and transport it to the preparation area, then the Q-Tips, film canister, and manicure scissors are ready to be used. All cut stalks are transported to show or preparation sites by automobile after being placed in small-mouthed wine bottles. Water is placed in the film canister. The Q-Tips are dipped in the water to aid in the removal of foreign matter from the open flowers—things such as aphids, various small spiders, dirt, spider webs, and pollen. The manicure scissors can remove up to 1/4" foliage which has been damaged by leaf spot or insect grazing. The spent terminal blooms and brown sheaths at the base of the flowers can be neatly trimmed away if necessary.

Be sure that you have a copy of the show schedule for the show you are entering. It outlines the specific rules one must follow in preparing entries. Rubber bands are used to place entry tags on specimen bottles. The iris check lists and R & I booklets should be taken to the show so that you can make sure that you have accurately completed the entry tags and spelled the iris names properly.

Unfortunately, in most shows, the chairperson has appointed a committee to take the specimens you have so carefully prepared for exhibition from a receiving area out to the tables in the exhibition room. A lot can happen from the time that particular prepared specimen leaves your sight until it is placed on the table to await judging. Before entries close, take a walk through and double check each specimen you entered and repair any damage caused by the placement committee person. Give yourself plenty of time to groom your entries and be out of the exhibition room before the show entry deadline. You show a discourtesy to the show chairperson, as well as your fellow exhibitors, if you consistently run late entering your blooms.

Never find yourself guilty of doing the following awful things to your iris show specimens. No-Nos include the following: writing the name of the specimen on that portion of the stalk below the water level in the bottle with a permanent marker. This will not help its chances of winning a ribbon. The tape with the specimen's name written on it should be removed from the bottle too. Please do not secure the entry tag to the specimen by using straight pins or paper clips and running it through the stalk where the stalk touches the bottle top. Leaving spent blooms in bud sockets to show how many have already bloomed on that stalk will not win a ribbon.

Any specimen with only one flower half opened should not be entered. Be sure to thoroughly check each specimen entered to make sure it has all its flower parts. In the hurried rush to get specimens entered, often missing standards, falls, or even beards go unnoticed. The same is true with extra flower parts. More is not better by any means. If you break a standard or fall while transporting the specimen to the show, please do not tape it back into place. Hot gluing a stalk back together is not ethical either. Adding additional flowers to a stalk cannot be done either. One last "NO-NO": if you are unsure of a name for your variety—leave it at home. We have all misplaced a name or two at one time or another. I know it probably was the prettiest stalk you had, but words cannot describe how embarrassing the situation will be if the cultivar wins an award and at the last moment someone has the variety "checked" in the R & I and it is mis-named.

Many people ask how "do" we transport our specimens to the shows over such distances. The prepared stalks are placed in gallon wine bottles with water and placed in boxes with dividers to keep them separated. We transport up to 75 cultivars in two vehicles per show. Once again, if you can successfully grow the specimens well and have been taught proper grooming techniques, then the exhibitor's world will be a window of opportunity for future iris show awards.

THE NEED FOR IRIS RESEARCH

Jean Witt (Washington)

In my role as scholarship chairman, overseeing the awarding of our AIS scholarship for graduate study in the plant sciences, I receive every year research proposals which make me green with envy. I keep thinking—if only we could apply some of the methods outlined for other plants to increasing our knowledge of the genus *Iris*! Our bylaws state that “encouragement and support of scientific research” is one of our societal goals. I believe that increasing our support specifically for iris research would be desirable.

We have been fortunate in the past to have had good basic studies of chromosomes (Randolph) and floral pigments (Henderson), but much remains to be done. Many questions about iris genetics and taxonomy which could be answered by today's methods of studying DNA remain unanswered.

The problem of pests and diseases probably heads the list. Could genes for borer resistance be inserted into the bearded iris genome? Disease resistance is being added to crop plants—it is not outside the realm of possibility for iris! (Though perhaps impossibly expensive at present.) Are there naturally rot-resistant species in the wild with such a gene or genes already available for crossing into bearded or beardless groups? We should check this out.

Although we deal with the variability of color and pattern with every cross we make, we still do not really know what causes, for instance, the stitched or dotted pattern we call *plicata*. Dotted patterns are not limited to bearded irises. They exist in the beardless as well, in such things as hybrid 40 chromosome Siberians, and in *I. laevigata*, and in the Japanese. Are the genes for dotting the same in all these groups? The cause of anthocyanin dotting have been studied in other flowers—do any of those causes apply to irises? Veining patterns on the falls are essentially in the same position throughout the genus—are they all controlled by the same gene or genes?

Could pattern—that is, petal borders and centers (spots or signals) of contrasting colors—be due to mutations of the same sort that cause white-edged variegated leaves? That is, are they mutations which occur in one or more of the structural layers that make up the leaf or petal rather than in the flower as a whole? And if surface layers can differ from the interior layers from which pollen and ovules are developed, what does this do to color ratios?

What makes the old diploid variegata HONORABILE so accident prone? Over the years it appears to have produced more sports than any other bearded iris: SHERWIN-WRIGHT, a yellow self; KALEIDOSCOPE with erratic splashes of anthocyanin; JOSEPH'S COAT, with erratic splashes of yellow; also an unnamed white/violet amoena. All of these revert to the red and yellow colors of HONORABILE upon occasion. Seedlings of SHERWIN-WRIGHT come out with purple falls as if HONORABILE had been used instead, and KALEIDOSCOPE and JOSEPH'S COAT set few if any viable seeds. Do the germ cells undergo mutation as well? How can an erratic, reversible mutation affect anthocyanin pigment in one plant and yellow plastic pigments in another? Is this the same mutation that Allan Enslinger has been

working with in 4n TB? This peculiar behavior should not be dismissed as of interest to MTB breeders only. After all, HONORABILE was among the background varieties that went into today's TB. Furthermore, at diploid level, this sporting propensity appears to be a source of additional variations in color and pattern.

In TB, what is the barrier that keeps us from having petals as vividly tangerine colored as the beards? I'm thinking of our pink flowers with watermelon beards—why are there no petals of this intensity of plastid pigment? Black irises can have equally black beards—apparently there is no barrier to anthocyanin intensity between beards and petals. Since we now have beards of various colors on flowers of contrasting colors, pigment must be inherited independently in beards and falls—what limits the lycopene intensity in petals? If we could break this barrier, we would have tomato red irises right now!

Pigment studies in groups other than bearded would be helpful, especially with regard to presence or absence of flavone co-pigments.

Chromosome counts are still needed on some of the recently introduced species. Surely, providing chromosome counts on new species as they come into cultivation ought to be an ongoing project.

Isozyme analyses are used to determine relationships between species in other genera. There are many questions about the genus *Iris* that would benefit from this and related types of research. For instance, analysis of the various "species" now lumped under *I. spuria* might make it possible to determine which ones, if any, actually warrant specific status. Are the species with 44 chromosomes merely tetraploid forms of the extant 22 chromosome diploid species, or did they arise as hybrids between extant or extinct species?

I. versicolor was considered by Edgar Anderson to have arisen as a post-ice-age hybrid between *I. virginica* and *I. setosa* subsp. *canadensis*. There is no real doubt of this, and Tony Huber tells me that if one grows enough *I. versicolor* seedlings, a few will revert to resemble their long-ago parents. Studies on this trio could add to our information about the behavior of fertile inter-specific hybrids. They might also tell us whether *I. setosa* subsp. *canadensis* is deserving of specific status, as some have thought. How much does it differ genetically from the Alaska forms? Might we obtain even better garden flowers from crosses of *I. virginica* with the Alaska forms, with their taller stems, better branching, and brighter clearer colors?

Does *I. tenuis*, the narrowly endemic species from Clackamas County, Oregon, really belong with the Crested Irises? A serious attempt needs to be made to cross it with such things as *I. cristata* and *I. gracilipes*. Studies are needed to ascertain the degree of relatedness or non-relatedness.

How closely related are the *Pseudoregelias* to the bearded? Or, for that matter, are they related to the Crested?

How is it that Pacific Coast Irises and the Chinese Siberians cross so readily, separated as they are by the entire Pacific Ocean?

Brian Mathew, in his book THE IRIS, has lumped a wide range of bearded "species" under *I. germanica* for lack of information about their real relationships. Here is another problem begging for contemporary research. Additional collections of plants from Turkey and other places would be helpful in sorting out this puzzle.

Several blue-flowered irises which are not part of the Louisiana hybrids occur to the south and east of the Mississippi delta. How these relate to *I. hexagona* is still debatable . . . should they be varieties or are they species in their own right?

Inducing tetraploidy with colchicine has been used successfully with Japanese irises and with Siberians. Tomas Tamberg has produced fertile Cal-Sibes this way. Could this technique be applied to other groups of now-infertile hybrids? For that matter, would it be to our advantage to turn some of the hardiest, most disease-resistant diploid bearded tetraploid to increase our TB gene pool, which has had little augmentation in decades?

Our AIS members work hard at developing many different sections of the genus *Iris*, and at promoting them as worthwhile plants for diverse garden uses. Basic research into taxonomic relationships, further identification of pigments, and genetics of pattern inheritance, have the potential for opening up additional fascinating hybrid groups, as well as adding to general botanical knowledge. Our local societies and regions have already shown an interest in supporting our general scholarship program financially. We hope they will consider being even more supportive of a scholarship specifically for iris research.



Batik, Ensminger 86 with plicata mutations—what is going on here?



Midwest H. P. Sass 1923 with mutation from medium red-violet to pale orchid, and some change in distribution of dotting.



40 chromosome Siberian seedling (Carla Lankow), dotted pattern with median stripe on F.



***I. tenuis*, Oregon endemic species. Does it really belong with the Crested Irises?**

A PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH INTERNATIONAL COLLECTIONS OF RARE IRIS SPECIES

G. I. Rodionenko (Russia)

(Editorial note: Dr. Giorgi I. Rodionenko has devoted some forty-five years to the study of the genus *Iris*. He is the world's foremost authority on the morphology, biology, evolution and systematics of this genus. On March 26, 1995, during the International Symposium "Gardening with Iris Species" held at the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis, Missouri, Dr. Rodionenko presented the following proposal to the attendees. The subject of threatened and endangered wild species has not been well studied in *Iris*es and warrants serious immediate attention.—J. W. Waddick)

The International Symposium *Gardening with Iris Species* should be the occasion to coordinate studies on the research and use on the wild *Iris* species of the world and to determine active researchers in the fields. Currently, many *Iris* species (including some of the most useful species) are in danger of disappearing from the Earth. It is urgent that we study the problems of their protection. We need to compile a list of all threatened *Iris* species in need of protection.

Special attention should be given to the rarest species which are the most useful and may not yet be found in cultivation anywhere in the world, but may still be found growing in the wild. I refer to these species as "super-rarities." Before living materials of these rare species are collected (without causing any damage to their remaining populations), it will be necessary to identify the natural distribution and cultural needs of these irises. The problems of protection, preservation and propagation of these rare species in cultivation is very complex and difficult. A complete review of these problems will be given in a future article for the 43rd Komarov Reading. The main points were reported at a meeting of the Academic Council of the Komarov Botanical Institute in May, 1994.

A long term plan for maintaining these wild *Iris* species in cultivation can succeed only when the climate, soil and ecological conditions of the region where we establish these collections is similar to the native conditions where these species grow. That is why it is necessary to study and define the ecological conditions where these rare species, and especially the "super-rarities" can be established. Thus for most species of the *Oncocyclus* and *Regelia* groups, areas may be found in California, southern France, Israel and Australia where we can already find a wide range of native species or cultivated hybrids. Among countries of the former USSR that are suitable may include parts of Armenia, Georgia and Turkmenistan.

Besides the natural environmental conditions, a very important role may be played by the enthusiasm of gardeners and growers who use advanced horti-

cultural methods. These growers may succeed in the cultivation of rare species under conditions that are quite different from those found in the wild. For example, the firm of Van Tubergen and other gardeners in Holland have succeeded with bulbous iris (*Iridodictyum*) and Alan McMurtrie has worked with these iris and those of the genus *Juno* in Canada.

The most valuable properties and the local variations of some species may only be discovered after they have been introduced into cultivation. For example, only one out of five accessions of *Iris albertii* has shown some resistance to "Soft Rot" in our Iridarium in St. Petersburg, Russia. This allows us to work with this species in our northern location. In another case, only one population of *Iris ensata* from near Vladivostok has grown well enough to allow us to create winter-hardy varieties of Japanese irises for the first time.

In many cases the role of genetics and the adaptation of a species may be determined through a well-planned program of hybridization. Presently, there are some great successes in these areas, and I hope to learn of others at this Iris Symposium. We must confirm this research to conserve rare species and understand the great importance of the specific cultural needs of rare species and the "super-rarities."

In our active study of rare irises, it has been necessary to look through many slides and pictures. I have brought some water color paintings to the U.S. (some dating to the time of Regel) that I hope will be of interest to the symposium participants.*

We must take a new look at rare iris species in order to find a way to make this proposed study both international and cooperative. I propose we organize a "Rare Iris Study Center" made up of botanists, hybridizers, amateur gardeners and professional horticulturists. We must select public and private gardens where work on rare iris has been successful or where it may have some potential of success. We must find enthusiastic iris growers of all sorts who are prepared to participate in the preservation of this valuable gene pool of rare *Iris* species. These enthusiastic growers are willing to locate and collect rare species in the wild and grow these sometimes difficult species in their gardens.

It will be necessary to find financial resources to fund field research and create a fund to stimulate further study. I already have an agreement including five young, enthusiastic scientists from Russia, Kirgizia and Mongolia who are ready to study rare *iris* species. This work is not only very complex, but needs financial support. For example, there is no living collection in the world which grows *Alatavia (Iris) winkleri*, a very valuable species to study the relationship of other micro-bulbous iris through planned hybridization programs. Collecting this rare species in Kirgizia and Uzbekistan is extremely difficult as I know from personal experience.

*It is hoped that the watercolors that Dr. Rodionenko refers to can be used to raise funds specifically to further his active research programs. High quality art reproductions will be offered with donations to his work.

(End note: Because many wild *Iris* species are already threatened or endangered, Dr. Rodionenko proposes a "Rare Iris Study Center" (RISC) to study and maintain these species. Specific points are:

- We should organize an international “Rare Iris Study Center” to coordinate research, collection and cultivation of rare *Iris* species.
- We need to compile a list of all threatened and endangered *Iris* species world-wide.
- Special attention should be given to *Iris* species not yet found in cultivation, but may still be found in the wild.
- A long-term plan must be developed for maintaining these rare *Iris* species in cultivation in public and private collections.
- We must contribute financial resources to fund field research and create additional funds to stimulate further study.

Dr. Rodionenko’s paper suggests scientists in Russia, Kirgizia and Mongolia who are willing to begin such a project, and I can add a couple from China, but we need to add the enthusiastic support from participants in the United States, Canada, England, Germany and other western countries, especially those with potential threatened native *Iris* species. I would welcome comments and suggestions to implement Dr. Rodionenko’s proposal.—James W. Waddick)

RATING SPURIAS FOR GARDEN VALUE

Maxine Perkins (New Mexico)

If you are reading this article in the April issue of the *Bulletin*, you are probably seeing lots of bearded irises in bloom. The Spuria bloom season starts near the end of the tall-bearded season, and that is just around the corner. I especially wanted to write this article before the Spuria bloom season, just in case you have the opportunity to evaluate Spurias growing. Also, I would like to know if my method of rating Spurias is consistent when used to rate Spurias grown in different areas. If you are planning to attend the '96 AIS convention in Sacramento, there's a good chance that you will see Spurias blooming in gardens you visit. If they are “guest” irises, they will be third-year clumps and should be doing very well.

Over the years, I've tried to find a system to record the performance of Spuria cultivars, at least through the first three years. Some methods of rating spurias are far too time consuming, and I'm left with a lot of paper work and little notes here and there. The Spuria bloom season coincides with lots of other iris activities here, so I needed a quick, easy method of rating. Otherwise, I'm left with counting dry bloom stalks, buds and number of buds per socket, and no way to evaluate the spent blooms.

About three years ago, the New Mexico region was invited to Colorado for a judging session at the Dr. Loomis Iris Trial Gardens. It was a great learning experience for us. Mike Moller was in charge of the gardens and had

developed a scoring method based on the scale of points found in our Judges' Handbook. I was very impressed with Mike's rating system, and with his permission, converted the scale of points in the Spuria garden-judging section to his system, and have been using it ever since. Obviously, there was a big advantage to judging in test gardens where plants were grouped in first-, second-, and third-year beds. Once you become comfortable with my conversion of Mike's rating method, you can easily and quickly score your Spurias, regardless of your planting scheme.

Using this rating system, you garden judge all irises using a scale from 1 to 5. 1=POOR, 2=FAIR, 3=GOOD, 4=VERY GOOD, and 5=EXCELLENT. This is your first step. Starting with first-year Spurias, look them over and decide what they have in common. What does the average first-year Spuria look like? Average is the middle value, "GOOD"; it is worth 3 when you begin using it with the scale of points. The whole idea is to use smaller numbers, making it easier and faster to come up with a fair and unbiased numerical value for each cultivar.

Over the years, I have settled on a series of standards for first-, second-, and third-year Spuria cultivars. If the values seem low or high to you, change them to meet your standards. Just keep in mind the general concept that there are two steps below "GOOD" and two steps above "GOOD." I find that the first year is the easiest, because you start out with typically uniform rhizomes, and the results can be dramatic. Don't forget that first-year Spurias are notorious for taking time to decide if they are going to grow in a new environment. Some rules that you can apply to first-year Spurias are: first, you can only count on about half of them blooming no matter how well you prepare their bed; second, the first-year's growth will not be typical of their potential, for example, they may be shorter and have fewer buds. In '93, the first year that I tried this Spuria rating system, I was growing 38 first-year cultivars, so my first-year system is based on that year, and I have not found enough significant difference since then to change my system.

TYPICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF SPURIA CULTIVARS

FIRST YEAR: Assuming that your Spuria cultivar had one fan on a single rhizome when you planted it, by spring you should have a minimum of two increases, making a total of three fans. Those three fans should produce one bloom stalk with at least three blooms. (Most of mine are "modern" Spurias; crosses from older varieties or species may have only two blooms). The highest scores for first-year Spurias have been: PANACEA '92 Hager—four fans, 3 stalks, 1 with 3, and 2 with 5 blooms; TRANSFIGURATION '86 Hager—9 fans, 4 stalks, 3 with 3 blooms and 1 with 4; SNOW HAWK '88 Corlew—4 fans, 4 stalks, 2 with 2 blooms, 1 with 3 blooms, and 1 with 4 blooms.

SECOND YEAR: You need to look over your second-year plants and come up with an average again. I use a broader range with a minimum of 5 to 7 fans. I still use the ratio of 3 fans to 1 bloom stalk. All stalks should have at least 3 blooms. You will begin seeing more terminals with two buds making a 4-bud stalk.

THIRD YEAR: This is the year that everything should fall into place. The Spurias should reach their peak performance this year and stay there for at least two or three more years. (Many clumps are still doing well as they expand to 10-year clumps). My minimum requirement for average third-year Spurias is anything from 9 to 12 fans. Two typical examples are: MYSTIC MESA '86 Wickenkamp—12 fans, 4 stalks, 3 blooms; DRESS CIRCLE '85 Hager—9 fans, 4 bloom stalks, 1 with 2 blooms, 1 with 3 blooms, and 2 with 4 blooms. I can't say that is their "peak performance," but they were well on their way.

BEYOND THIRD YEAR: It becomes almost impossible to count fans, but sometimes I try. The ratio of 3 fans to 1 bloom stalk holds on the average, but many clumps do much better. One of my all-time favorites is CUSTOM DESIGN '81 Hager—it grows well in an ideal spot, that is, with good drainage, fertilizer at the right times, and water during the rapid-growth period. By growing it in its own spot, CUSTOM DESIGN can be allowed to go dormant in late summer. In its third year, I began sharing the plant with friends, and in its fifth year, I took the time to count the fans and bloom stalks. There were 37 fans and 23 bloom stalks. Most of them had 4 blooms, but 5 stalks had 5 blooms, and one had 6 blooms. You have to provide good growing conditions to get superior results.

It would be easier to explain, in person, the process of arriving at the numerical value for each Spuria, but maybe I won't confuse too many of you.

First, you have already determined that your Spuria ranks somewhere between 1 and 5 (See "Garden Judge All Iris as Listed Using the Scale Listed Below" in the table below). Different parts of the clump may rank higher or lower as you work in your yard, but to make the explanation easier, let's assume that the Spuria ranks as "GOOD" in each category, which is a rank of 3. Then, each number beside the two-letter abbreviation in the scale of points is multiplied by 3, because the Spuria ranked as three in all categories. Now, record those answers on the form "Sample of Garden Score Sheet," also shown below. Add all of the recorded numbers together and you will have a numerical score for that Spuria.

Shown below are two examples of the scales: the scale for setting the 1 to 5 rank of the Spuria you are judging; and the converted scale of points from the Judges' Handbook; followed by two sample forms from the garden score sheet for filling in your results. I have filled in the first one, as you would, assuming that the plant was average in all categories.

If you are puzzled by the low numbers (1, 2, 3), everything on the original scale found in the AIS Judges' Handbook had been divided by 5 (the scale then has a total of 20 points instead of 100; while still having the same mathematical proportions, and is easier to work with as smaller numbers). NOTE: the only change I made in the Judges' scale of points, other than dividing by 5, was to break-down the points for clump effect (listed in the Judges' Handbook as 15) into three sections: neat, graceful, and flower distribution—each having one point in my scoring system.

I hope you have the opportunity to use this Spuria rating system to evaluate your Spurias. Also, I would like to hear from you if you have any comments or suggestions. You can send your questions or comments to: Maxine Perkins, P.O. Box 494, Mesilla Park, NM 88047.

GARDEN JUDGE ALL IRIS AS
LISTED USING THE SCALE
LISTED BELOW

- 1 = POOR
2 = FAIR
3 = GOOD
4 = VERY GOOD
5 = EXCELLENT

SCALE OF POINTS FOR SPURIA
IRIS

1. CLUMP
 - a. Neat (Nt)1
 - b. Graceful (Gr).....1
 - c. Flower Distribution (Fd)1
2. FLOWER
 - a. Color (Co)3
 - b. Substance &
durability (Su).....3
 - c. Form (Fo).....2
3. PLANT
 - a. Stalk & Foliage (St)3
 - b. Floriferousness (Fl)2
 - c. Stamina & Vigor (Vi).....2
4. DISTINCTIVENESS (Di).....2

SAMPLE OF GARDEN SCORE SHEET

Name: _____

Nt _____ Gr _____ Fd _____ Co _____ Su _____
Fo _____ St _____ Fl _____ Vi _____ Di _____ Total: _____

Comments: _____

Name: _____

Nt _____ Gr _____ Fd _____ Co _____ Su _____
Fo _____ St _____ Fl _____ Vi _____ Di _____ Total: _____

Comments: _____

HYBRIDIZING

Hooker T. Nichols (Texas)

Very few serious iris growers throughout the world can say that the thought of doing some personal pollen daubing has not crossed their minds even once. As one browses through the iris catalogs, it is evident that many of the same irises are listed over and over again. These are the irises which have met the challenges put forth by iris growers and have proven themselves to possess those qualities that truly make up a good garden iris.

When a new iris cultivar is introduced, the average cost is usually from \$10.00 to \$45.00 depending on the introducer. There has been a lot of talk lately about the costs of introduction and why we pay the prices that we do for new introductions.

On the average, it takes about a ten year period from the time the iris seed germinates until you have ample stock to release it as an introduction. It doesn't take a person long to figure out that the key to winning iris awards is a wide distribution of a cultivar. The new iris needs to be grown in gardens throughout the country that annually have many iris enthusiasts as visitors. Many of the visitors will be iris garden judges who will remember those which are good garden varieties.

Besides having your new seedlings or named varieties seen at the annual AIS Conventions, make sure that you have guested them in various parts of the country to see if they indeed are winter hardy in harsh climates, or if they can tolerate the high humidity and desert conditions found in the Southwest and the deep South. It won't take long to figure out that your special iris cultivar may be a notorious rotter. Word about that will spread just as fast as the rot does in your garden.

Commercial growers who hybridize know that one should never introduce a bearded variety unless you have a minimum of seventy five plants. If you have a color catalog and the new variety is truly unique and beautiful, seventy five plants won't even begin to meet the demand, and you will have many disappointed buyers.

During the incubation period, as I call the years before a cultivar is released to the public, I carefully observe the variety in various soil conditions. The hybridizer wants to know that the cultivar presents itself as a fine garden plant that is attractive throughout the year even when it is not blooming. With our long growing season here in Texas, the irises seem to increase very well after our hot summers when it cools off in the fall season. One should make very careful observations about which irises grow well for you in your area and home gardens. They are the ones which should be considered as potential parents for your hybridizing endeavors.

Many growers will say that one should use only the newest cultivars to hybridize with, but that is not necessarily true. There has been a substantial decrease in the floriferousness of our modern iris varieties during the past 35 years. If you don't believe that statement, just observe irises introduced during the late 1950s through the mid 1960s. They do grow very well. Much taller,

more buds, and abundant ruffled petals do not go hand in hand with floriferousness. The modern hybridizers need to pay attention to how their irises grow everywhere. Irises produced on the West Coast need to have some of those Southern, Midwest, and Eastern genes mixed with theirs occasionally.

The ability of an iris variety to rebloom is definitely an added plus for iris growers when they choose new varieties to include in their gardens. There have always been hybridizers who pursued the remotancy trait. Others took the attitude that if it does rebloom, that is okay. Lately, several noted hybridizers have discovered that their new varieties rebloom in various parts of the country other than in their home garden. If you have a short growing season, don't expect a lot of rebloom. If you live in an area where you have severe summer droughts and hot temperatures, rebloom is often late, but abundant. I don't care what some of the leading reblooming hybridizers preach. Hot temperatures cause irises in the South to go dormant in the summers, even if it is kept well watered and fertilized.

Now that you have decided to try a hand at pollinating your favorite flower, here is some advice from my point of view. I will tell you how I hybridize my flowers every spring and what has and has not worked for me.

The first flowers of the season, particularly if you have had late cold spells, usually will not set seed pods. Later flowers will be very cooperative. Probably the most asked question every spring is "Where does the pollen really go?" Many new iris hybridizers actually think the pollen goes on the beard. It does not go on the beard! Our favorite flower has three upright petals called standards. The three petals that fall toward the garden soil are called "falls." Each "fall" is supposed to have a fuzzy thing on it called a "beard" (if it is a bearded iris). They have been referred to as moustaches, but since we don't keep them trimmed on iris petals, they can't be moustaches. Right above the beard on each petal is an arched appendage that has a supporting mid-section in the center similar to a backbone called the "style arm." The ends of this are flared. If one carefully peels back the flared ends, the stigmatic lip is exposed. It is white in color. That is where you place the pollen when hybridizing. Some knowledgeable hybridizers will say that only one stigmatic lip need be pollinated, but trust me, do all three, more is better.

Many hybridizers get a better take percentage between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. daily. If the day is hot and windy, the earlier the better. Once that stigmatic lip dries out, one is simply shooting blanks when pollinating. Do not immediately water your irises from overhead after pollinating. Your work will have been in vain. If the weatherman says it is going to rain, and it is overcast, do not pollinate. Instead, collect pollen and store it either in plain paper envelopes or place the pollen in gelatin capsules and freeze them. I seldom freeze pollen. Pollen in envelopes lasts up to three weeks for me if it is just kept in the house in a cool area.

Some people will tell you that you should remove the lower three petals (falls) of the iris after pollination to ensure that an insect will not come along and spoil your work. Forget that! An aphid has probably beat you to home plate anyway! Now let's talk about the pollen. It comes from the anther, which is located just below each of the three stigmatic lips. When the pollen is fluffy, that is when it is ready to be used to pollinate. If it is grainy, then don't waste

your time. When I first talked my wife into helping me hybridize, (a job she hates), I had to educate her on some of the finer details of pollinating etiquette. It is socially unacceptable to leave any anthers protruding from the stigmatic lips after pollinating has been done. I simply hate to view slides taken in my garden where the whole world can see that I have diddled every open flower in the garden. Abandoned anthers left on the falls after use can make an elegant picture displeasing.

Within two days, one can tell if the hybridizing was successful because the ovaries containing the fertilized seeds will begin to swell, thus forming the seed pod. Immediately remove the sheath below the spent bloom because water will collect there and cause the newly formed pod to rot off the stalk, or insects will lay eggs there and the resulting larvae will eat into the developing pod and destroy most of the seeds before they ripen. The seed pods will ripen in about 8 to 12 weeks depending on the weather conditions.

Immediately after the pods ripen, the seeds are removed from the pods and allowed to air dry in styrofoam cups. They are then stacked and placed on shelves until the late autumn when they are planted directly into the ground at the depth of about $\frac{3}{4}$ ". In early spring the seeds start germinating. When the baby plants reach the height of 3 inches, they are dug and lined out in the seedling patch. We plant the seedlings about 2 inches apart in a row. They are pushed throughout the summer and fall by being fed "Miracle Grow" every ten days. I get a very small percentage bloom the first year but nearly 100% the second year.

The one thing I have not mentioned is how I record my crosses when they are made in the garden. I use the small paper price tags with strings attached to them. The name of the pod parent is at the top and the pollen parent is at the bottom. Providing the birds leave the tags alone, they last until the pod ripens and go directly into the styrofoam cup where the seeds dry until planting time. I cannot emphasize how important it is to record the parentage. Unless the seeds were spilled out in the garden, at least you can record the pod parent.

Be sure to be creative with your hybridizing. Make a few wild crosses just to see what happens. Novelty irises such as variegated flowers and those with horns, spoons, or flounces are in huge demand. Be prepared to take a lot of constructive criticism in the beginning. Expect it to take several years until your hybridizing lines are established and you begin to get several keepers in any given year.

Just remember, a novice iris hybridizer has just as good a chance of getting an outstanding seedling as does a seasoned hybridizer. You have to grow the later introduced irises to know what the public wants in new cultivars. Visit nearby gardens and see what grows well for everyone. Most importantly, have fun with your hybridizing endeavors.



HOW DO YOU TREAT A GUEST SPEAKER?

OR GUIDELINES TO A BETTER RELATIONSHIP WITH GUEST SPEAKERS

Lynda Miller (Indiana)

Your club is planning the year's events, and you need a guest speaker for a special meeting. You are in charge of getting a guest speaker, and you have never done it before. This article has been written to help guide you through some of the unknowns of what is expected of your club and of what is expected of your guest speaker. After many years of being a guest speaker, I have come to realize that most persons in charge of obtaining one have never done it before.

Step number one is to know what you would like the speaker to do—do a program on anything pertaining to irises, do a program on a specific type of iris, or do judges' training. Pick a speaker that fits your needs. Don't ask an iris collector to do a program on hybridizing or a judge to do garden judges' training on Siberian irises when that judge only grows bearded irises. Sure a judge is supposed to be able to judge all types of irises, but one who grows only bearded irises will do a much better job giving garden training on irises he or she has first-hand knowledge about growing. If you have a special type of iris you want covered in garden judging, and you don't know who would be good, ask your iris friends if they have heard a good speaker. Hybridizers are not always the best choice. Just because a person hybridizes doesn't make him or her a good speaker. That's why it is best to ask around to see if someone has heard them speak to a group.

Step number two is obtaining someone you can afford. Say you need someone for a local meeting. The cost will have to come out of the club's treasury, and its funds are very limited. If you are a new society or just plain poor, be honest with the person you want to do the program. Some of them can afford to come without charge, and they may be willing to do so. If the program will run late in the evening, and you can't afford a hotel for the guest, ask if they would mind staying with a club member. Just make sure that after you plead that you can't even pay the speaker's traveling expense that a treasurer's report is not read stating that the club has thousands of dollars in resources. Expenses should be paid for by the host club, region, etc. These expenses must be reasonable. Plane fare should be a fair price if the club has sent a written confirmation of dates well in advance of the meeting so that the speaker can obtain the best fare possible with the best flight times and connections that fit the speaker's schedule. It is best if the speaker checks with airlines and finds the best possible fare and then checks with the club to see if this is acceptable with them. A speaker should never buy an expensive ticket without knowing that the club can afford its cost.

Some speakers prefer to drive, or they may have to drive because of the meeting location. Mileage should be paid on a direct route (no side trips included) round-trip basis. The government pays 28¢ per mile. This may be high by most standards. Cost should not be higher than flying the distance, and the speaker should NOT be paid only what it cost in gasoline. Remember, the speaker is taking time away from his work and garden, and it takes time to put together programs. The speaker and the host should discuss all parts of the costs of the program. Any honorarium should be more than the airport parking fee and other regular expenses.

Step three is that you put what you expect the speaker to do in writing. After phoning or asking the person, put at least something in writing so the speaker knows exact dates, and hopefully, times. This is most helpful when obtaining the best flight plan. Offer to make flight reservations for the speaker. Most like to make their own, but some don't, so ask. If the flight has to be paid for more than a few weeks before the meeting, offer to pay for the flight ahead of time. Do not let the speaker return home without being reimbursed for his expenses. If the meeting is at a hotel or you decide to put the speaker up for the night in a hotel, make hotel reservations for the speaker and make arrangements for the room to be paid for by the host organization. Speakers do eat, so make some kind of arrangements for meals. This may be done through allowing charges to the room, having someone take the speaker out to eat, or asking the speaker to keep food bills for later reimbursement. Be sure that the guest has food available upon arrival, especially if the flight has been long and the guest has no transportation of his or her own. Someone should also be responsible for providing transportation from the airport to the hotel, and if the hotel provides courtesy transportation, be sure that this is available at the time the guest arrives. Both the person who is arriving and the one who is doing the greeting should have some way of identifying each other at the airport. Just because you've seen a picture of the guest does not mean you will recognize him. That dark hair in the picture may actually be a shade of blonde on the individual. Speakers should be provided with a number they can call in case there is a delay in the flight. Remember, that no news is good news; the speaker may be unable to get to a phone. One speaker was scheduled to arrive in Phoenix early in the evening in time for the night's activities. Because of bad weather, his plane was late to Dallas. He was quickly put on another airline because his scheduled flight had departed. His new plane left the gate and sat on the runway for hours before finally leaving Dallas. He arrived in Phoenix at midnight, but a faithful member was still waiting for him at the airport.

Step four is to communicate with the speaker to know his needs for putting on a program. Will a slide projector and screen be needed? Discuss who is to provide what materials for the program. Guest speakers will need to know approximately how many will attend if they have any handouts or give the members or if they are giving a test with a judges' training program. Discuss any other plans that the club may have with the guest before his arrival. If the club wants to have a dinner with the guest so that all the club members have a chance to meet him, he should be told of these plans. If the guest speaker wants to spend additional time in the area before or after the program, this is

not the responsibility of the host club. The club is responsible only for the normal time needed for the presentation of the program. If the guest speaker is driving, be sure that good directions to the hotel or meeting place are provided. The motel where the guest will stay should be as close to the site of the meeting as possible. If the speaker is a hybridizer, he or she may want to give a couple of rhizomes of a current introduction to the club for door prizes. They may be shipped at the proper planting time. It's a good way to introduce people to your irises, and it also is a good way to say thanks to the club for the honorarium they have given.

All of these guidelines may sound complicated, but they are not if you remember to communicate with your guest speaker, treat the speaker like a true guest, and pay his expenses. Guest speakers should also be courteous to the hosts by being reasonable in your needs and by being conscious of the cost to the club that has invited you.

IRIS HOUSE MYSTERIES

They are called Iris House mysteries, these little books that are set in a Bed and Breakfast house where every room is named for and decorated with a color scheme that matches the real iris. The rooms are called ANNABEL JANE, BLACK SWAN, CLIFFS OF DOVER, ARCTIC FANCY, CARNABY, and DARCY FLAME. All these irises were pictured in a catalog seen by Tulsa author Jean Hager.

Currently, there are two books in the series, BLOOMING MURDER and DEAD AND BURIED. I first heard of them when a lady in the Tulsa Area Iris Society recommended that everyone in the club read them. Soon thereafter, Judy Mogil sent BLOOMING MURDER to me because she said, "If I didn't know better, I would swear that you wrote this book." With such flattery, I immediately read the book. It was easy reading, and any irisarian will enjoy the constant reference to irises, both through room descriptions and references to irises blooming in the garden at Iris House. I know that I enjoyed the book very much.

Imagine my surprise when I read in the local paper that author Jean Hager graduated from Pawnee High School—the school where I have worked for nearly thirty years. I was able to contact Ms. Hager to commend her on the accuracy concerning the irises. She said she loved irises but really knew little about them. Oddly enough, she is more accurate than many garden writers are when she talks about irises.

Ms. Hager has another series of books set in the Cherokee Nation. Being of Cherokee descent, these appeal to me also. However, for irisarians, I recommend BLOOMING MURDER and DEAD AND BURIED for a fantasy trip through an iris house. The first book has more references to irises, and do keep in mind that you won't learn about the culture of the iris. This reading will be for fun. It is fiction.

Ron Mullin

MINIATURE DWARF BEARDED (MDBs)

Ada Godfrey (Massachusetts)

These are the unsung heroes of the iris world. They are the first to bloom, they are extremely hardy, and they have a range of color and pattern unsurpassed.

If you take a little time to understand their likes and dislikes which are really very simple, you'll make them happy. In return, they'll brighten the early days of spring, blanketing the foliage with their brilliant-colored blossoms. A few noted breeders have made such strides that now there are a few which will even rebloom.

First, on no account do they like to be waterlogged. They do best in a well-drained sunny bed and are particularly suitable for the rock garden or in scree. They love the sharp drainage.

Second, they tend to be shallow-rooted and need to be firmly anchored in the soil before the onslaught of winter. Sand poured around their base will prove an ideal winter stabilizer.

Third, they need a loose, friable, fairly neutral, gravelly soil. Hardpan covered with gravel is not their favorite place to be. Nor is it a good idea to give them a shot of acid fertilizer to encourage growth! I've found a tablespoon of superphosphate, though, scratched in around their roots in spring gives remarkable results.

And last, they do not like other plants to encroach on their space. They will not compete, they just disappear.

Where you grow them is only limited by your own imagination. For instance, a long bed of them inside a walled garden makes a startling display, or along a ledge running down a rocky bank firmly planted into odd pockets, in spaces on top of stone walls, tucked into corners against rocks in rock gardens, or in large earthen-ware pots on patios, and in small pots on outside windowsills.

Barbara and David Schmieder, Concord, Massachusetts, have grown them nestled at the foot of high oak trees where the sun reaches them in early spring before the oak-leaves appear. They grow some in a slightly raised bed bordered by logs. Others (the one closest to SDBs in size) grow in the front of the regular iris beds. There are others bordering an ornamental pear tree. Barbara says the smaller earlier ones seem to do best in the raised bed with no competition from any of the larger classes of irises.

The Burtons of South Hamilton, Massachusetts, grow John's '96 introduction, SUSLIK, in a whiskey barrel, although I think in the case of this punila it's to protect the surrounding plants from being invaded and not vice versa! They are able to duplicate the kind of soil needed more easily in barrels, Lucy says. And an added plus is you don't have to bend so far to weed.

Agnes Waite, Springfield, Massachusetts, says they do very well in their garden as an edging to the miniature tall bearded irises.

I've had them grow very well on a low bank with primroses among them, the primroses at least 4" away from them. In order to discourage slugs among the primroses, I scattered pebbles and gravel around them and the miniature dwarf bearded thrived as well. I've grown them equally well in round plastic pans placed on the edge of a raised perennial bed. A spot incidentally in which even SUSLIK refused to grow. In the pan they thrived! I even have them in smaller pots sitting on a bed of sand for the winter.

As to when they bloom, because of the different species which are in their make-up (pumila, cretica, reichenbachii, aphylla, mellita, etc.), and also the newer ones derived from standard dwarf breeding, miniature dwarf bearded, as a group, have a long bloom season. Here in southern New England they begin to bloom in late April, continue through standard dwarf bearded bloom time, and finish with the intermediate bearded.

Some of the earliest here are ATROVIOLEACEA (Todaro 1856), a diminutive red-violet bitone with white beards; ALPINE LAKE (Willott '81) which has been at the top of the Dwarf Iris Society Popularity Poll for the past two years. It covers itself with bloom every year, giving an appearance of being a blue and white amoena from a distance but on closer inspections the standards are really pale blue. BEE WINGS (Brown, A '60), canary yellow with maroon wings on either side of the beards; BUTTONS (Willott, '75) a deep violet with pale violet beards; DARING EYES (Miller, L '87) the loveliest white, beards as well, with a large dark hyacinth blue spot on the falls; MIDAS MITE (Willott '85) another little cutie from the Willott's with light yellow standards and darker orange-yellow falls with paler beards; PEEPERS (Miller, L '91) another tiny (4") beautiful production by Lynda Miller of white with dark hyacinth blue spots on the falls; and SLEEPY TIME (Schreiners '87), the cleanest, neatest, pure light blue self with white beards.

HARRY HITE (Hite/Norrick '88) with its beige standards and pale orchid falls with reddish brown veins around the sides of white beards tipped gold has to be a color-combination standout. Another, LITTLE MAY DANCER (Hite '76) with white standards and indigo blue falls veined white has no rival in depth of color and charm. TOOTH FAIRY (Jones, B '93) is an instant eye-catching clump-maker in white with a pumpkin orange spot on the falls and carrot red beards. SPARKY (Aitken '84) a vigorous lovely violet with deep purple spots around frosty light violet beards not unreasonably won the '93 Caparne-Welsh Medal. And CINNAMON APPLES (Black '90) with lovely gold standards and round red falls edged gold is beautiful.

With the advances made by such noted hybridizers as Aitken, Jones, Black, Boswell, Hager, Lankow, and Miller, as well as extreme vigor and color combinations not seen before, we now have rebloom in the MDB's. BUGSY (Hager '93) with gold standards, maroon falls banded gold is a repeater; BITE SIZE (Miller '88) a tiny violet enhanced by a lovely blue beard has the tendency to rebloom, GRAPELET (Aitken '89) a very round grape violet with pale blue beards reblooms, DITTO (Hager '82) white with a blue flash beneath the red spot on the falls is a reliable rebloomer. Others with reported reblooming capacity are: PUPPET BABY (Boswell, '82) a blue lavender self with plum brown hafts; another by Hager, DOODLE (Hager '82) a fancy blue plicata; and HEY THERE (Lankow '92) with its yellow standards and round light

blue/green falls with violet beards. Of note is another rebloomer but from *pumila-aphylla* background, VELVET TOY (Dunbar/Sindt '72) with branching.

And they're all getting easier to grow. From a '94 purchase of HEY THERE and TOOTH FAIRY, I have enough to supply my friends and neighbors! Paul Black's newest creation FAIRY FUN (Black '95) a rich buttery yellow with small white fall patch surrounding bright yellow beards tipped white and faint brown *plicata* markings arrived last August. Hastily planted in a bed with other recent acquisitions, it was a nice, fat little plant by September, suffering from no diva tantrums or other ill effects.

To keep up with the miniature dwarf bearded world, join the Dwarf Iris Society by sending dues (found listed elsewhere in this *Bulletin*) to Lynda Miller, 3167 E. U.S. 224, Ossian, IN 46777, USA.

ROBIN ROUND-UP

Libby Cross (Virginia)

As your new Robin Chairman (I dislike the politically correct term "Chairperson," which sounds like something with four legs), I felt my first obligation was to round up all the current Robins and find out what iris subjects were being covered and how many folks were involved in the Robin program. To this end, while everyone else was addressing their 1995 Christmas cards, I was composing letters to all RVPs, Section heads, and any individuals I could think of who might know where there were stray Robins lurking. The response has been very gratifying, but the deadline for the April *Bulletin* comes too soon for all the replies to be in, so I will have to go with what I have to date.

Of the six Regions heard from, only two have a Robin program in place, Regions 4 & 21. Bettie Nutter, Region 3's RVP, assures me that she is anxious to get something going in her territory, and I hope others will feel the same.

All of the Sections, with the exception of PCIs, have at least one robin flying:

2 for Arils; 2 for Japanese Iris; 2 or 3 for H.I.P.S.; 2 for Rebloomers; 2 for Siberians; 4 for SIGNA; 2 for Louisianas; and 3 for Tall Bearded. I do not have a number for Medians, although they do have a robin program and a willing Chairman in Betty Wyss, who is looking for new members.

Sharon McAllister is directing the Aril Robins and is also working out the Do's and Don'ts for our new E-Mail robins. Ellie Weikle handles the H.I.P.S. Robins, Dale Hamblin has the Siberians, Pat Brooks is taking care of JIs, LAs, and SIGNAs, and I have been doing my best with REs, TBs and Hybridizing Robins.

Somewhere out there I hope there are Robins I have not yet heard from. If so, please, *please*, PRETTY PLEASE, let me hear from you, as soon as possible.

There are all kinds of categories of iris activities that need robins: Photography, Arts & Crafts; even plain old General Interest Robins (the last one of those bit the dust last year). If you are interested in meeting new friends, swapping tales about your favorite flower, or getting valuable information about growing and hybridizing irises, write to me, or to one of the chairmen listed at the end of this article.

In addition to seeing E-Mail Robins take flight, I would like to start another Robin, in a slightly different format. After expounding the principles of the Round Robin in the October '95 *Bulletin* and stuffing you full of the rules for same in the January '96 issue, now I'd like to try a Scheduled Return Robin. In this, your introductory letters go to the director, who runs off copies of all the letters and sends them to all the members at the same time, with a longer response period than the 7-10 days usually allotted to the round robins . . . something like 3-4 weeks. The answers are all sent back to the director, who then has the same, longer time, to copy and distribute them. If this idea appeals to any of you, let me know.

I want to thank all the wonderful people who took time, during the holiday rush to respond to my request for information about the Robins. I expect I'll hear from the rest of you once the dust of the holiday uproar settles.

Now is the time to join a robin, if you've never tried one; or join an additional one, and have even more fun. If your iris interests are in one of the categories listed, write to the appropriate chairman.

Jan Fricke: RR #1 Box 170, Elkhorn, NE 68022 (Region 21)

Bettie Nutter: 308 Greenfield Dr., Bridgeville, PA 15017 (Region 3)

Sharon McAllister: 2979 Sundance Circle, Las Cruces, NM 88011 (Arils & e-mail)

Ellie Weikle: P.O. Box 175, Shawsville, VA 24162 (H.I.P.S.)

Patricia Brooks: 102 Jefferson Lane, Ladson, SC 29456 (JIs, LAs, & Species)

Dale Hamblin: 152 N. Idlewild, Mundelein, IL 60060 (Siberians)

Betty Wyss: 1413 S. Liberty, Independence, MO 64055 (Medians)

All others write to me. Libby Cross: 8907 Potts Creek Rd., Covington, VA 24426, or call (540) 747-2123. I will look forward to hearing from you.

M.A.S.S. MEDLEY

Mad About Species and Siberians

June 14, 15, and 16, 1996

Westford, Massachusetts

1995 SEASON IN REVIEW

Dean Brand (Oklahoma)

1995 was, as usual, a mixed bag for iris growers in northeast Oklahoma. A hard freeze in late March caused tremendous losses in several gardens. I lost almost everything planted the previous summer, as well as about half of the two-year planting. Established clumps more than 2 years old suffered little damage as, for some unknown reason, did the 1994 introductions. The latter were all planted in the same bed and only two varieties were lost, even though beds on either side of the 94 bed were devastated. Strange things happen in gardening. Surprisingly, most everything that survived the winter bloomed. As to percentage of bloom, 1995 was one of the best in years. The quality, however, was not so good, with a great many stalks shooting straight up and branching only at the very top.

I have been unable to attend the last two conventions to see the really new things, so will have to limit comments to my own garden and a few varieties seen growing in other local gardens. For one who grows so many of the somewhat older ones (late 70s and early 80s) there is not much being introduced today to get excited about anyway. Nearly all the new ones each year are slight improvements, no better than, or just plain inferior to similar varieties already on the market. I am amazed at some of the stuff that receives awards and always think "What a shame all judges don't have access to extensive collections of older varieties to compare the new ones with." I must say, however, that three of the last four Dykes Medal winners were well deserving as they perform for me and in other gardens in the area.

Top spot in my garden again this year has to go to MOMENTUM (Dunn 86). I wish someone would tell me why the judges keep overlooking this variety for top awards. Absolutely the only possible fault I can see one might find with it (and I don't necessarily consider it a fault) is the somewhat "wrinkled" texture of the bloom. It is lovely; always produces those fabulous, tall, graceful, and well branched stalks which stand up to the Oklahoma winds; never fails to bloom; is distinctive; is loaded with buds; and blooms and blooms and blooms. I have had stalks capable of competing for Queen of Show with back-up buds open in all three positions.

Another good variety in the plicata class, though it's more of a halo than a plicata, is SNOWBROOK (Keppel 87), pure white standards and a precise clear light blue border around the edge of the white falls; so clear and clean it looks as though it has just been washed and pressed; nice stalks which can easily open three blooms at once. This one was not overlooked, however, it just had the misfortune of being introduced the same year as the indomitable SILVERADO (Schreiner 87) which was great this year, as usual, with its pale blue flowers of perfect form on nice sturdy, well branched stalks. A good sized clump of this is stunning.

One more fabulous plicata this year was the older MODERN CLASSIC (Knocke 75); vivid violet plicata markings on snow white ground with tall graceful stalks in perfect proportion to the smaller blooms. This one doesn't

bloom often, but when it does, it can be spectacular. Probably one of the prettiest flowers of all irisdorn, I'm just glad I have room to keep some of these super beautiful prima donnas for the times they do bloom.

Some of the newer ones I liked were:

BRONZETTE STAR (Kegerise 92) rusty brown from Lady Friend. Great stalks but has never quite equaled those fabulous plants at Boy's Town during the Omaha convention.

CIDAQ (Kegerise 91) Near white standards and creamy peach falls; soft and lovely.

SOCIAL GESTURE (Kegerise 91) Unusual and lovely shade of blue violet with blue to white beards; great form; stalks like tree trunks; closely branched and slow increase.

RISEN STAR (Maryott 91) One of the prettiest yellows since New Moon. Adequate branching and bud count.

SOCIAL EVENT (Keppel 91) Move over Gatty & Hager! Though pink is not my favorite color in iris, this buff peach with flame red beards has such great form and ebullient ruffling that it's a must have.

HONEYMOON SUITE (Ghio 91) Luxurious blooms of pink and orchid with tangerine beards. Acceptable stalks and branching.

RIDE THE WIND (Schreiner 91) What a pleasant surprise! Sometimes these Schreiner freebies are better than those \$45 ones. Clean white standards and flaring medium blue falls; good qualities throughout.

HANDSHAKE (Ghio 92) Marbled blue on white; yellow beard; unusual and very pretty. Good grower.

HELLO DARKNESS (Schreiner 92) Nice, lush, dark purple with black beards; good stalks; class in black.

ORCHID PINSTripES (Lyons 91) A must have for you novelty lovers; clean white with orchid stripes down standards and falls; aril type form. Caused quite a stir at the Tulsa show this year.

BOOGIE WOOGIE (Nichols 93) White standards and violet falls with busy, busy hafts (almost a plic?); orange beards. Distinctive and pretty. Short stalks.

DUNSMUIR (B. Brown 92) Gorgeous, huge red purple blooms with near white beards; 4 foot stalks under my big oak trees; no telling what it would do out in the sun.

MIND READER (Keppel 94) Violet on lavender luminata, and,

SPIRIT WORLD (Keppel 94) Blended red orchid luminata are two of the more exciting new things to appear on the scene in recent years. Although I haven't yet seen really good stalks of either, they are definitely exciting as to color and pattern. SPIRIT WORLD also sports near black stalks; weird.

EPICENTER (Ghio 94) Neat, clean, narrow black cherry border on salmon falls. Unusual and very nice.

DELTA BLUES (Schreiner 94) Another of those great blues from the Schreiner family; mid to light blue with white to yellow beards; heavily ruffled.

OVERJOYED (Gatty 94) Luscious full bloom with oyster white standards and creamy yellow falls; perfect placement.

PAINT IT BLACK (Schreiner 94) Dark purple standards and blacker falls; black beards; good increase.

DEGAS DANCER (Schreiner 94) White ground edged lavender violet; yellow beards; different pattern than most plicatas; big flowers.

CHAMPAGNE WISHES (Keppel 92) Strange and lovely pinkish melon color; pinkish orange beards; excellent grower.

FEATURE ATTRACTION (Schreiner 94) Another Dykes for the Schreiners? Lacy bubble ruffled smoky lavender grape with cool white beards; aborted stalk on first year weather damaged plant, but from what I hear from those who attended the Portland convention, it makes stalks worthy of its beautiful blooms. Excellent growth on a first year plant.

CLASSIC LOOK (Schreiner 92) Another clean looking one; snow white with narrow plicata edge of medium blue stitching; similar to and almost as good as RARE TREAT (Schreiner 87).

I saved the best for last. I first met this fabulous “lady” as a single bloom in a Styrofoam cup under the tentative name of Whisper. It was love at first sight. Not since the day I first laid eyes on STEPPING OUT had I seen such a beautiful creation; a gorgeous, perfectly formed bloom of snowy white with just a whisper of lavender lilac stitching on the standards and slightly deeper lilac stitching on the falls and edged in the finest lace. I thought how fantastic this would be on a good stalk with nice branching. How thrilled I was when I was offered a chance to guest this along with other seedlings in my garden. But that was nothing compared to the thrill the next spring when Whisper sent up this great stalk with beautiful branching and popped open three gorgeous blooms at once. It was breathtaking, pure class in every respect. After two years of winning Best Seedling, hands down, and much prodding from area irisarians, Whisper became RHONDA FLEMING in 1993 and promptly rewarded its hybridizer by winning QUEEN OF SHOW at the Tulsa show with what was probably the most perfect stalk I have ever seen of any iris. RHONDA FLEMING has gone on to be voted a runner-up in the Cup voting at two conventions and this year garnered the third most Honorable Mention votes for a tall bearded iris. For those of you who have not yet met her, you are in for a pleasant surprise. This is one exciting iris. Congratulations, Ron Mullin, but what on earth can you possibly do for an encore?

DESIGN CORNER

Carolyn Hawkins

About 2 years ago I was approached by the National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc. to prepare a video on the culture of iris, possibly some judging hints and anything else that would fill up 25-35 minutes of tape. The sale of this tape would help fund its many projects, which includes civic beautification across America. It sounded like just the thing for clubs to use as a program, would cost less than a speaker, and would be available at a moment's notice. Many clubs are small and can't afford the expenses of bringing in a speaker every month. When setting up programs for a year in advance, it is always good to have something as an alternative selection, "just in case." One other usage—use it for a program; then keep it around to "check out" to new members who want to know "how do you do this or that, etc."

So, I went to work on an outline of topics to cover and consulted with the video producers that had done this type of production before. The advice consisted of: have a lot of information available about the subject as it takes a lot (LOT) of text to fill in while using visual scenes. Also write the script first so you will know what to shoot for footage, etc.

I had plenty of info on iris to use, but I did not write the script first. We shot scenes in several gardens while the iris were in bloom in April and May in Atlanta. Video Impact Associates carried all of their equipment from garden to garden filming the things I knew we would want to cover. The flower designs were all done at one location on one afternoon and members of ImaginatiF Study Club brought their materials in to film, one after the other.

After the iris season was over and I had visited York, Pennsylvania for the 1995 convention, and the weather was 90 degrees with 90% humidity, I did the garden demonstrations for the video. Once again, VIA arrived at my home and we dug dirt (excuse me, soil) into tilled the mix (the fumes from the tiller just about asphyxiated the camera man), trimmed iris, planted them, etc.

All of these shots were accumulated on videos for me to review, and the hard part now began. The script had to be written. All of my working life I have been taught to be very succinct and direct in what I should say. If we had used my script we would have had 10 minutes of voice to use! So, we started in, line by line, and rewrote each segment. And then, we rewrote them again. And then, I had to look up exact information to use that would meet the expectations of the novice gardener and the geographic requirements for everywhere. So then, we rewrote again. The iris used were identified IF I knew for a fact that I had the cultivar on film; otherwise they were described generically.

Cutting to the chase—we got it all together, had a professional narrator do the text, edited the script to the video scenes, checked the graphics, fine tuned it some more—and it was done.

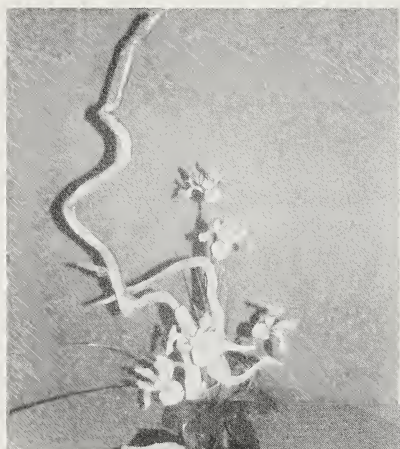
Why am I sharing this information with you—because it turned out to be a major project, and you might be inclined to do the same thing. Maybe my

experiences will help another. (And for selfish reasons this is a form of therapy to write all of this down.)

Accolades and my sincere appreciation to all those that even had any part in the production of this video, and that includes those who consulted/consolated me. The project is over, the product is something I am proud to have been a part of, and I have another life experience to add to my existence. By the way, see the ad for acquiring this “masterpiece” elsewhere in this *Bulletin*.

Two of the designs filmed in the video are featured in this article. Picture No. 1 is a line or line-mass design by Suzanne Doughtie. She used “Oriental Beauty” Dutch iris with driftwood and foliage. This design was prepared as a “build” design in the video and each part is added one by one until it is finished—a great learning tool.

Picture No. 2 is a mass design using an assortment of garden flowers and foliage with iris. This design was done by Mickey Holton, and she attempted to combine all kinds of textures and forms to show you what a pleasing result you can get.



Picture 1



Picture 2

THE AIS DISPLAY SCREEN



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Write or Fax to: Ed Wilkinson
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Directions for setting up and taking down are inside the cover of the case.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Clarence Mahan

GOOD ADVICE FROM NEW ZEALAND

Hilmary Catton is one of the most devoted members of the New Zealand Iris Society. She is one of only three living members of that society who have been awarded Honorary Life Membership. Over the years Hilmary has made many friends in The American Iris Society. She recently wrote to tell me that she is now preparing to enter a retirement village where she will have only a tiny garden. "But," she writes, "I can assure you there will be a fair percentage of irises in it."

Hilmary's correspondence is always interesting, but her most recent letter contains very good advice on the successful cultivation of irises. Some of our newer AIS members should find this advice especially useful: "We are having a very poor iris season [as] it is still too dry and cold. There really haven't been any really warm days, and the nights are still ridiculously cold. . . . The only good point is very little disease, and I haven't even sprayed at all. The poor things didn't even get their mid-winter lime-sulphur spray which has almost been a religious rite in my iris patch ever since I started 27 years ago. I always found that it always prevented rust and also reduced rot and leaf spot considerably . . . how I miss my lovely old 3/4 acre garden where I could just dig up a new bed for new seedlings. They always loved that. I don't think I know any plant that responds to virgin ground like bearded irises do.

"I always alternated beds and paths every 3 or 4 years. It made a lot of work but paid off handsomely. The paths were always under grass and kept mowed with the clippings left on the ground . . . when they were converted to beds there was plenty of humus there . . ."

A GREAT LADY PASSES

The autumn of *Iris et Bulbeuses* contains news of the death of one of the greatest ladies of irisdome, Countess Helen von Stein-Zeppelin. Countess von Stein-Zeppelin, who was in her 91st year, was a member of AIS for many decades and was a major force in promoting iris culture in Europe after WW II. In 1950, she was a leader in the formation of the German Iris Society, which in 1973 became the *Gesellschaft der Staudenfreunde*. For a long time she served as president of that organization, and subsequently was awarded the title of Honorary President.

Her famous plant nursery at Laufen in Baden will continue under the direction of her daughter and son-in-law. And surely her passion for irises, which was indeed great, will continue to live in the beauty she disseminated across the European continent.

NEWS FROM RUSSIA

The Central Iris Society (CIS) of Russia now has 98 members. The majority of the members (63) are from Moscow and the Moscow Region. Only one member, Dr. Rodioenکو, is from St. Petersburg, while 4 members are from Krasnoyarsk Territory (Siberia). Ten (10) of the members are from outside Russia (Ukraine - 4, Uzbekistan - 3, Kazakstan - 1, and Slovakia - 1). Twelve of the members are hybridizing irises. Since last year, the CIS has registered 158 cultivars with the AIS.

The CIS continues its efforts to organize a Moscow iris competition. They have located a new garden site this year and planted about 60 cultivars there for future competition. In 1995, the CIS conducted a symposium of tall bearded irises. The irises placing in the top ten were:

1. MASTER TOUCH
2. VICTORIA FALLS
3. BEVERLY SILLS
4. TITAN'S GLORY
5. SUPERSTITION
6. LATIN LOVER
7. GOING MY WAY
7. MARGARITA
9. ROSELENE
10. BABBLING BROOK
10. CHRISTMAS TIME
10. LIME FIZZ
10. STEPPING OUT

At the Moscow iris show this year, Best Specimen went to PARADISE (Gatty 80), with RISING MOON (Schreiners 83) and SIENNA WALTZ (Hamblen 86) in 2d and 3d place, respectively. In addition to Moscow, there have also been iris shows in Krasnodar and in the RENZA Region.

The CIS is very much in need of good slides of irises which they would like to use to publish a calendar, and also to use in slide programs. Anyone who can assist the CIS by providing good quality slides, particularly of tall bearded irises, should send them to Sergey Loktev, P.O. Box 54, Moscow, 129085 Russia.

RUSSIAN ORGANIZES SPECIES PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Michael M. Diev, a botanist who is a member of the CIS, has prepared a project plan to organize iris hunting, collecting and preserving in Russia and its neighboring countries. Mr. Diev prepared this plan in response to Dr. Rodioenکو's call to act now, before it is too late, to identify and collect rare iris species, many of which are greatly endangered. The greatest need of this project is grant funding, of course. Plans call for sharing plants and seeds with iris societies and interested parties in various parts of the world. Mr. Diev is also planning an iris species collection trip to Turkey in February of 1996 and has invited other interested botanists and amateur collectors to join in this

endeavor. If you are interested in these projects, Michael Diev's address is ul. Sumskaya, 12/17, dv. 98, Moscow, 113525 Russia.

ABOUT SERGEY LOKTEV

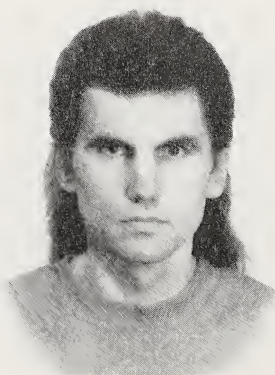
Sergey Loktev is the founder of the Russian CIS. He was born on June 30, 1954. His father, who died in 1982, was once a Soviet leader in one of the Moscow districts. His mother was a school director, and is now retired. Married three times, Sergey has two sons, age 20 and 8. He graduated from Moscow University, majoring in economics and mathematics. Sergey's current "significant other" is Liudmila Rozanova, the Secretary of CIS.

Sergey has fond memories of irises growing in his grandmother's garden. In 1981 he saw a photograph book with many colored pictures of irises, and decided that irises were his flower, or as he puts it, "I decided one day I would go in for irises without fail." The first cultivar he bought was BRASIER (Cayeux 34), which in French means "blaze." Sergey then began visiting iris shows held by Moscow Floriculturist Club, and joined in 1988. He became frustrated by the fact that the club's interest in irises was minimal. Writing to English irisarians, he was invited to visit Cannington in 1992. From the end of 1991 he began to form the Central Iris Society. Within a year it was up and running, and officially registered with the government.

Sergey is primarily interested in tall bearded irises, but he also likes Siberian irises. He is not very interested in other types of irises, many of which are difficult or impossible to grow in Moscow. Still, he would like to be able to grow Louisianas and Pacific Coast Natives. He now has a collection of over 600 tall bearded irises, and his preferences are greenish colored cultivars and bicolours. He made his first crosses in 1990, and has registered one variety so far. He would like to develop space age irises that thrive in Moscow, and he is working to obtain a black iris with a bright red beard and other novel color combinations.

In 1996, Sergey is hopeful he can come to the convention in Sacramento, and many of us who correspond with him hope so too. If he makes it, and you see him there, go up and introduce yourself. But be warned: Sergey's enthusiasm for irises is infectious.

**Sergey
Loktev**



PROGRAMS, SPEAKERS, AND ALL THAT

Ronald Mullin (Oklahoma)

Even though a club's year may not begin in April, this is still a good time to ask ourselves if we are doing everything possible to reach stated goals.

Foremost among the attributes of a successful club is friendliness. Making people feel welcome means they are more likely to return even though that one visit may not have given them any of the information being sought.

And what about information? While new people may enjoy seeing slides, this may not fill enough of their needs to keep them coming to meetings for very long. Every meeting should be informative. No club can survive for long if there is no program.

Slide shows are very pleasing to established iris growers, but for the sake of those new people, make those slide shows educational. If a type of iris is shown that is different from what is normally grown in the area, point out that it is a different type and mention its specific differences. If its culture is difficult for the area, mention that too.

Slides often show an iris in an inferior manner. In reality, an inferior slide should not be shown. If it is, it should be emphasized that the iris looks better when seen in the garden. If an iris appears to be fire engine red or emerald green and it really isn't (Are you surprised that it isn't?), alert the newcomers to the fact that the color is untrue. This goes for all slides that are the wrong color.

The stated purpose of shows is to introduce the public to irises. Always be available to answer questions. Mingle with the crowd and listen for comments and questions. Be ready to explain that the IB that has been chosen as queen is not stunted, that the Louisiana is a different type, etc. Don't criticize the judging. The visitors don't understand the judging process anyway. Keep in mind that we are educating the public, not staging an exhibition for us, as individuals, to shine.

In an attempt to bring in new ideas, clubs often host speakers from other areas. Generally, a club pays for the expenses of the guest, but it's also a good idea to provide an honorarium. These people must prepare the program, take time away from home, leave cars at airports, drive to and from the airport, and do other things they would not be doing if they were not giving a program for you. Don't make them pay to do something for you. Most speakers do not charge a fee, and they shouldn't, except in certain circumstances.

It's a good idea to check with others about guest speakers. Spending big bucks to bring in someone can lead to club problems if the speaker is not capable of giving a good program. And, speakers who come from out of state should never request that the club pay the expenses of anyone other than himself or herself. Clubs should not be expected to pay for families to enjoy visiting a place they "haven't seen before."

If a local person provides a slide show from his or her personal collection of slides, remember that it cost plenty of money to get those slides. It took some time to prepare the program, and it's good to remember that this person went to some effort just to see all those new things the group is viewing. Check out the cost of a roll of slide film and the cost of processing. Keep in mind that many of the slides are too inferior to be used. That doesn't mean they didn't cost money to process. After considering all this, it should be apparent that a monetary token of appreciation is in order.

As mentioned earlier, a variety of program types is essential. New members sit through meetings that are like Greek to them, so the old-timers should be happy to listen to programs on basic culture, how to prepare irises for the show, and iris terminology.

As important as the program is, its importance may not exceed that of the business meeting. How many people are bored into staying home because of a business meeting that drags on and on, sometimes leaving only a short time for the actual program? Strive for a fast-paced business meeting. If it appears that business will interfere with the program, schedule the business meeting AFTER the program. By doing this, any guest speaker will receive better attention from the audience, can leave if necessary, and won't have to listen to needless discussion of whether it is or is not wise to move an account to a bank which pays 1/8% more interest. Members, especially new ones who don't care about where the money is kept, can leave after the program. Out of town guests who came only to hear the program and people who need to be home early will also be free to leave.

Help your club in the following ways:

1. Always having an informative program.
2. Make sure there is a variety of program types.
3. Consider whether you are creating any hardships on guests who give programs.
4. Whether it's a meeting or a show, be courteous and friendly to everyone.
5. Remember that it is the program which is most important, not the business meeting.
6. Check out potential guest speakers to see if they are good at giving programs. A big name does not necessarily mean the person is a qualified speaker.
7. If you do have a guest speaker, please be certain that you have communicated with that person enough that he or she knows what is expected, what accommodations will be provided, whether he or she will be met at the airport, and anything else that will help the person to feel confident that the trip is going to be worthwhile.
8. Remember that iris clubs are supposed to be fun. If it is no longer fun, check to see if the problem may be within you and not the fault of the club at all.

IRIS POSTMARK AVAILABLE

Jerry Cathey (Oklahoma)

The United States Postal Service will again offer a pictorial iris postmark in conjunction with the eighth annual Ponca City, Oklahoma Iris Festival, May 3, 1996. Write-in requests are accepted for up to thirty days past the date of the postmark. Please enclose stamped postcards or stamped envelopes (limit is 50 postmarks per person unless special written request and fee is paid in advance) to be postmarked, inside a larger envelope and addressed to:

Postmaster
Iris Festival Station
402 E. Grand
Ponca City, OK 74601-9998

Postage stamps used must have been issued prior to May 3, 1996.

I, Jerry Cathey, am the one who thought up the idea of the Iris Festival for Ponca City. I'm also an employee of the Post Office, so you can see where I got the idea for the postmark. Thanks for all your support and encouragement of this endeavor, measured by your great response. One thing that has worked extremely well to protect and speed up the sending out of all the original and handpainted artworks leaving here on your envelope with our postmark, is to simply include peel and stick address labels (typewriter size lettering) for each letter going to a different address. This helps us and helps you by keeping you from getting one of those ugly overcancellations along the way on a special keepsake.



SPACE AGE IRISES: THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT

Jim Hedgecock (Missouri)

I guess it is time to put in print a few thoughts and ideas on that controversial subject, Space Age irises. Almost from the day that a few seedlings appeared in the Sass fields in the late 40s and early 50s, these irises have been a love or hate subject in iris circles. Many dyed-in-the-wool iris judges would never vote an award for one of those horrible things. But in the same vein, many more open-minded iris judges think Space Agers are truly wonderful.

So let's take a look at these horrible and wonderful irises. It is true that, until the last 10 years or so, many of these irises have had poor form and narrow hafts. They just did not have enough hybridizers working with them to advance their general flower form. In other words, they still needed more modern bloodlines infused into their gene pool. That has all changed in the last few years, and form and substance are no longer an obstacle to their beauty.

If there is any one iris that has changed the Space Age lines, it has to be SKY HOOKS. It has proven to be a strong parent in passing on the adornments to its children in just about any color class. A secondary trait has also been that a number of its children are rebloomers. SKY HOOKS has advanced to an AM status as have several of its children.

Horns, spoons, and flounces are, of course, what separates Space Age irises from the crowd. One fault has been that, as bloom progresses on a stalk, the adornments disappear. This should be followed by the hybridizer, and unless the flower itself is exceptional, the seedling should not be introduced. It is possible to hybridize Space Age irises that have too many adornments and will not open properly. Again, the breeder should cull these seedlings.

A number of hybridizers are working with Space Age irises, and I feel it is only right to mention a few that have introductions. They include Ben Hager, Manley Osborne, Lloyd Zurbrigg, Don Spoon, Henry Rowlan, and myself, Jim Hedgecock. I don't think anyone could write an article on Space Agers without mentioning the late Monty Byers. He just had a natural talent for breeding these irises. Several of his intros have won HMs and AMs. Jim Mahoney, of Albuquerque, New Mexico also added a number of good irises to our field's gene pool. And, of course, Lloyd Austin is probably the father to the entire family.

France also has a couple of very promising hybridizers in Jean Peyrard and Lawrence Ransom. Lawrence has some very interesting Pumila crossed SDB seedlings with horns. He has also noted that a number of varieties in the MTB classes appear to have tiny horns on the beards. Maybe he is going to expand on these.

Finally, what does the future hold for this family of irises? Most of the bearded classes have had Space Agers bred into them. Hybridizers need to

work on specific colors. At the present, good Space Ager are needed in black and red, and improvements could be made in most other color classes. What about different colored adornments on specific colors. No one has explored this avenue yet. The field is wide open and anyone can try his or her hand at hybridizing these wonderful irises.

IS IT WISE TO MAKE IRIS CROSSES?

Ronald Mullin (Oklahoma)

Every year several new people will learn how to make an iris cross, and they will enter the wildly exciting field of trying to produce an iris worthy of introduction. Once one has had a few seedlings bloom, then he or she will have an inkling of what the commercial dealers go through to bring us those new introductions year after year. Believe me, it is no easy task to produce something worthy of a name.

First, one rushes out and makes wild crosses. These seldom produce the exotic new color the novice envisioned. The usual result is something so ugly that the gardener hopes he is the only one who saw it. Yellow and blue irises crossed do not create green, and that lovely black or dark purple iris crossed with a *plicata* does not produce a black and white *plicata*. It will probably produce the haftiest iris ever seen.

Next, just getting the cross to take is not as easy as one might expect. The problems encountered include the fact that one of the chosen parents is not fertile; the pollen had been spoiled by water, or heat, or bugs; thrips devour the pollen before it has a chance to do anything; and the rains come and rot the flower before a seed pod can be formed. Once the hurdle of just getting the cross made has been mastered, more problems come along. Visitors are coming, and no gardener wants an ungroomed garden, so the potential Dykes winner is broken off before the hybridizer sees the tag so carefully attached earlier in the week. The seed pod does form on another cross, but the entire stalk is broken off—end of seed pod. The novice forgets to strip off all the leaves and the spathe and the stalk rots, including the seed pod. The hybridizer takes no precautions regarding something to catch the seeds in case the pod splits while he is away from home. He returns to find all the seeds scattered somewhere on the ground. Or, he forgets that the seed pod, encased in the toes of nylon hose or some other means of catching the seeds, is an inviting place for insects. He harvests the seeds and finds they've all been destroyed by a worm that calls the place home. Many people spray the pod and its covering with an insecticide.

Finally, a seed pod reaches maturity, and the seeds are harvested. The hopeful gardener shells out the seeds to dry, and more potential problems rear their ugly heads. The tag which identifies the cross is no longer legible, so only the pod parent is known. The wind just happens to blow the containers over and all the seeds are mixed from three or four crosses. And, sometimes the

gardener himself is the culprit and accidentally does the same thing the wind did.

It's planting time for those award-potential seeds. The gardener carefully selects a spot, after deciding to plant directly into the ground. That's the same place that is flooded with the first heavy rain and the seeds wash away—or the wind whips through and the seeds are uncovered—you get the point.

In the spring some of the seeds actually become little seedlings, at least they do if you didn't have some of the above catastrophes or you forgot to keep the seed bed watered. However, it is not time to start looking for a place to put your first EC certificate. The seedlings must grow to a certain stage before they have to be transplanted. Of course, some of them won't survive that experience, and now you have only 25 plants from which to get an introduction.

In most parts of the country, these new seedlings aren't going to bloom the next spring, and we must remember what we've always heard—first year plants aren't typical. So, if they do bloom, you hold them over unless they are so horrid that you are ashamed. Finally, your cross that was made in 1990 produces flowers on every little plant. It's probably 1994 by now, and the number of plants is down to about 15. If this is a typical cross, the gardener will know immediately that most of the new things aren't worth keeping, but there is another little problem that arises about this time. The flowers are so pretty that he or she just can't part with them until they have all bloomed. The idea is that the really bad ones will be discarded AFTER bloom season. I decided to tie yarn around the stalks of those that had to go. This was because I wanted to allow all the blooms to finish since it was not a very good bloom season anyway. The season ended, but when it was time to dig the inferior ones, there was no yarn to be seen. At least there was none on the plants, but there was plenty in the robin's nest in the tree limbs nearby. So, all the seedlings were kept for another year. Most of us hardly have room for all the irises we grow as it is, and having to hold over seedlings does not help that problem at all.

Two or three seedlings finally meet the demanding standards that the new hybridizer has set for himself. After all, if it isn't as good as something from Keith Keppel, Joe Ghio, or Ben Hager, why bother? And, didn't Schreiner's or Cooley's have one in their catalog that was almost the same color? We certainly can't compete with those irises. However, there is hope that maybe our iris is good for our climate, so we keep it. We are afraid to give it a name. We certainly don't want people questioning our ideas of what is a good iris. So, we hope for judges to come to the garden to help us decide if the new iris is really any good. More problems—the judges don't come; or one does come, but she doesn't notice your new baby at all; or two come, and one says the iris is great while the other says it looks just like something that you detest. So, the years pass, and the iris has no name, but you love it. The best thing here is to send it to someone else to grow. Perhaps they live near a population center and four or five judges MIGHT go to their garden and see your seedling. Just maybe one of the seedlings will receive so much praise that you decide to name it. Good luck on that point, because it seems every good name you can think of was used as far back as 1903. A name is finally chosen,

someone has agreed to introduce the iris for you, and there is the shock of finding out how many rhizomes will be needed. Of course, you don't have nearly enough, so more time is needed. Get ready for comments like, "It's an old seedling, so it's probably not very modern." Perhaps using a numbering system that won't disclose the age is the answer here.

Anyway, when your iris is introduced you will encounter the dread of seeing it look terrible at a convention; you'll hope for positive reviews that won't necessarily come; you'll see faults that never existed before; and you'll find that it won't grow in those climates where it must do well if it is to win any awards. Here's the solution to that. If you introduce it because it does well in your climate, then you have added to the beauty of gardens with climates of a certain type. Maybe it is the best of its type in that climate. If so, that is your reward. If it doesn't do well on a national level, there may be no AIS awards, so just enjoy the iris yourself. If it never does well at a convention, your chances of an award are slim and none, because it seems that too many judges vote only on what they saw in a convention garden.

With all these negative thoughts, why would anyone want to try hybridizing. The answer is simple. It is the most exciting thing that one can do in the gardening world. Even if the irises are terrible when they bloom, the anticipation is so thrilling that the disappointment is lessened. One doesn't have to be a genetics expert to make an iris cross, and one doesn't have to become an introducer just because he has made some crosses. Never introduce something that you feel is inferior. This doesn't mean that you won't think it is AFTER it has been introduced, but be sure to evaluate the iris carefully before it is introduced. Try your luck. It's fun, frustrating, and disappointing, but fun is number one.

MORE ABOUT ROOTS

Koen Engelen (Belgium)

My garden in Belgium is in a climate which is mostly cold and very wet in the spring. After reading Lucy Burton's article on roots in an earlier *Bulletin*, I thought I'd add some more information to it based on what happens here.

After twenty years of growing irises under the conditions that we have here, these are some of my recommendations. I always let the irises dry out for several days before planting again. By doing this, I have no bacterial soft rot at all. My soil is not fumigated.

I cut all the roots 2-3 cms. from the rhizome. I do this because many studies have shown that the roots contain the most nematodes and other little creatures. By cutting the roots away, you avoid an explosive infection.

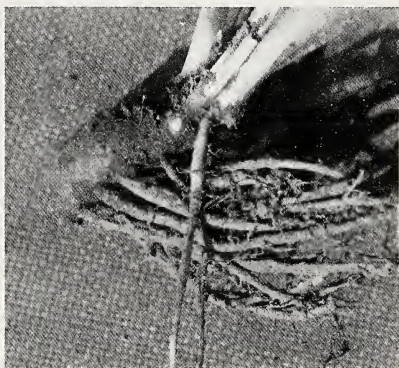
I've found an easier way to plant. I push the rhizome in the soil only one day after it is cultivated. Just like when I plant bulbs, I need only one hand to do this. I also cut the leaves quite short so that the wind can't affect the plant too much.

I never irrigate after planting. Irises are survivors and very tough, so I don't spoil them too much. As the picture shows, new roots have to grow through the old ones which is not a good start regarding possible infections.

For the Louisiana iris lovers: We have had temperatures of -15 C. during three weeks, and the plants haven't died, even the fifty or more new varieties I imported last year. They all seem to be doing well. I cover the plants with 40 cm. of peat moss just as I do with some other plants.

I've also found a good way to keep your iris planting young without replanting. I cut away the old rhizomes after two years and thin out the many new shoots, as shown in the photograph. I put some new soil where the removed old rhizomes were growing. By doing this, the iris will have room to grow again to the center because there is new space to fill in. When thinning out, I keep only one nice shoot per 20 x 20 cm. area.

By sharing our experiences, we can all learn what someone else does that has been successful, and maybe it will work for us too.



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SECTION SLIDES AVAILABLE

The various Sections of AIS also have slide sets available for rent. These feature irises of each respective group. *Rental fee is \$5.00 per set, unless noted otherwise.* Requests for these slide sets should be submitted as follows:

ARILS and ARIL BREDS: Order from Clay H. Osborne, 47806 Calle Fiesta, Indio, CA 92201. Rental fee \$7.50—Check to Aril Society International.

DWARF: Dorothy Willott, 26231 Shaker Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122-7111. Check to Dwarf Iris Society.

HISTORIC IRIS PRESERVATION SOCIETY (HIPS): Contact Joan Cooper, 212 West Country Rd. C, St. Paul, MN 55113. Check to HIPS for \$7.50.

JAPANESE: Order from John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053. Check to Japanese Iris Society.

LOUISIANA: Order from Dalton Durio, Route 7, Box 43, Opelousas, LA 70570. Check to Society for Louisiana Irises. Rental fee is \$10.00.

MEDIANS: Order from Terry Aitken, 608 N.W. 119th St., Vancouver, WA 98685. Check to MIS.

REBLOOMERS: Contact Diana Nicholls, 4724 Angus Drive, Gainesville, VA 22065. Check to Reblooming Iris Society. Rental fee is \$7.50.

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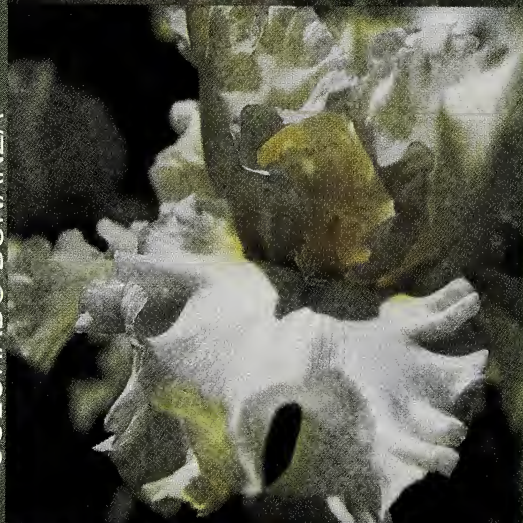
- ALPINE TWILIGHT** (John R. Durrance) D86-151 TB 36" L Pastel hues of pink standards, pink beards, and violet-pink falls are reminiscent of the lovely alpenglow on the snow-capped peaks. This husky grower produces a consistent 10 buds per stalk. Sostenique X Heavenly Harmony. \$30.00
- ANNE MURRAY** (Mike Moller) TB 36" M-L Named in honor of the pop & country recording artist. Anne's favorite color is blue so she chose this reverse amoena with standards of light lilac blue with darker flush at the midribs. Falls are light blue-white veined darker blue. Yellow beards are tipped white. EC for best seedling. SEE COLOR AD ON PAGE 59. \$30.00
- COLORADO BONANZA** (Tom Magee) TB 43" E After Pikes Peak Bust, starting in 1859, rich finds of silver and gold in Gregory Gulch to Central City, then Idaho Springs, Silver Plume, Keystone, Breckenridge, Aspen, Fairplay, Cripple Creek, Crested Butte, Silverton, Telluride . . . into the Denver Mint and onto the capitol dome! Large, ruffled, blocky silver iris, gold beards & hafts, and gold infusing the standards and falls. EC 1991 & 1993 HC 1993 (7734: (Colorado Sunshine X White Lightning) X Wedding Cake sib) X New Tomorrow. SEE COLOR AD ON PAGE 59. \$30.00
- COLORADOAN** (Tom Magee) TB 38" M Hue woman or man of the colorful centennial state. Sand dune standards and styles, amber wave falls. Purple mountain majesty plic hafts, wide borders on falls, and pencil tracks over snow bank topped by red rock beards, defining track down center of falls. Gigolo X Acoma. SEE COLOR AD ON PAGE 59. \$30.00
- MAKES SCENTS** (John R. Durrance) D86-131 TB 36" ML Very light lavender standards are almost silvery. Falls are light lavender-blue with slightly lighter area around the light yellow beards. Flowers are lightly ruffled and have a lovely lilac scent. Well branched stalks sport 8-13 buds. \$30.00
- PEACHY SUMMIT** (Carl Jorgensen) #85-2-3A TB 30" M-L A large ruffled peach-flowered self with standards and falls rimmed a deeper shade. The style arms, pronounced and laced, enhance the deep orange beards. A vigorous grower with pleasantly fragrant blooms of excellent substance. Our visitors liked this one. \$30.00
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- WUNNERFUL WUNNERFUL** (Carl Jorgensen) #92-LP-1B TB 32" E-M-L Lawrence Welk, like our visitors, would surely approve of this showy ruffled pink and blue amoena of classic form and proportion. Blooms have wide-petalled, gracefully flared falls, closed standards and red beards. A vigorous plant with many show stalks and excellent branching. 7 or more buds, permitting an extended bloom season. Slight fragrance. \$35.00

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SEE AD PAGE 58

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(TB—L. Markham)

Cool elegance with just a dash of flirt! This full sib to Florence Fisher puts the accent on form, finish and clarity of the soft pink color shadings of its petals and beards, set off by beautifully branched 34" stalks above clumps of clean, blue-green foliage. Not a big tall bearded—just a classy one; fertile both ways and proving to be an outstanding parent for both TB and BB! HC 1995 under #87-4G2.

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1996 INTRODUCTIONS

LEMON CHESS TB, 36", ML.
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Photo by Paul Gossett

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1996

INTRODUCTIONS

FROM

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Photo by Bill Maryott

ESTABLISHED POWERS sdlg. #3428-5 TB, 36", M-L. (Rumbleseat X Sterling Stitch) White, trimmed mid-blue plicata. Excellent branching with 7 to 9 buds. HC 93, 94, 95. Fertile both ways.....\$30.00

EXACTITUDE sdlg. #3619-3 TB 36" M-L. (Point Made X Colorwatch sib) Burnished gold standards, yellow falls with 1/2" border of dark blue trim. Great stalks with 7 to 9 buds. Fertile both ways.....\$30.00

CEE CEE sdlg. #4070-5, TB, 36", M-L. **October rebloomer.** (Codicil X Best Bet) Light blue standards, dark blue falls, near black beards. Great form. 7 to 9 buds in the spring. 5 buds in the fall. Fertile both ways\$30.00

OLD LOYALTIES sdlg. #3500-5, TB, 36", M-L. Deserving Treasure x (Heavenly Harmony x Loudoun Princess) Beautiful stalks with 7 to 9 buds. Pink standards, blue falls. Fertile.....\$30.00

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SUE ZEE sdlg. #4163-1 18" (MIB) (Lesson X Best Bet) Great stalks with 5 to 7 buds. Green self (really) with blue beards\$14.00

MARRIS sdlg. #4172-1 18" (MIB) (Spin off X Smart). Gold self with brown feathered spot around beards. 5 to 7 buds\$15.00

ROZ sdlg. #1469-1, IB, 18", M. (Mariachi Music X Smart) Gold self, red spot with orange beards\$15.00

GUIDEWORD sdlg. #3613-6, SDB, 14", M-L. (2825-1: Pippi Longstockings x Do Si Do) X (Little Episode x Pippi Longstockings) Brown standards, brown falls, huge red spot on falls. 5 buds. Fertile \$10.00

INDEX sdlg 3611-5, SDB, 14", M-L. (Comma x Dash) Yellow, huge brown spot on falls, orange tipped white beards. 5 buds. Fertile.....\$10.00

5 TB's \$100.00 5 medians \$50.00

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95/96 (D. M. Spoon)

INTRODUCTIONS

MY JODIE ('95) TB, ML, 34", 7-9 buds. An elegant, ruffled flower in an unusual flesh-pink color combination. Standards are flesh pink, falls same with rosy pink in center, fully horizontally flared; flesh pink beard. Exceptionally wide branched stalks, terminal triple socketed, up to 9 buds. Cataldo x Infinite Grace. \$30.00

DAZZLING LORA ('95) TB, ML, 28"-33". Radiant yellow self with white zonal around darker yellow beard. Flaring, wide falls, ruffled and lightly laced. The flowers are of heavy substance and can last 5 days, up to 9 buds. An excellent landscape iris with a nice citrus fragrance. It glows like a lantern at dawn and dusk and is our garden favorite. Excellent parent both ways. Lora Kathleen (Lively Lemon x Mandolin) x Dazzling Gold. \$25.00

SON OF DREAMS ('95) TB, ML, 42". Large, ruffled lavender-blue bitone with thick, sturdy stalks and wide branching, up to 14 buds. Domed, very light lavender-blue standards, broad falls with prominent darker zone down the center. Beard is



Blaney Marlow

lavender-blue, rust tipped in throat. Beautiful, off-season foliage with wide spiraling blades. Excellent parent both ways. Dream Lover x Pledge Allegiance. \$25.00

EMILIE DOLGE ('95) TB, M, 34". Light yellow self with large white zonal. Standards are domed and falls are flared with no haft markings. All petals have rippling ruffles with lightly laced edges. Styles and beard are pure yellow. Excellent branching and flower position, up to 11 buds. Long lasting flowers of great substance. Choice stalks for flower arrangements. Lively Lemon x Mandolin. \$25.00

COLLEEN'S DREAMSICLE ('95) TB, SA, 41", ML. Beautiful, flaring and ruffled pink and peach spaceager with a prominent cherry red beard. Fuzzy, upturned pink horns are sometimes tipped in lavender and are produced even on the last buds. Pink standards and creamy white falls with peach border and solid, smooth peach hafts. Excellent branching with 7-9 buds. SA parent both ways. (Christmas Rubies x Battle Star) x (Bride's Halo x Stately Mansions). \$30.00

BLANEY MARLOW ('95) TB, ML, 43". Rose-pink plicata with red beard. Domed pink standards, styles are pink edged, with rose-pink centers. Falls are palest rose-pink, striped and stitched with rose-pink, darkening at the hafts. Excellent stalks, open branching, up to 14 buds. A clump is a garden centerpiece. Named for our friend and stellar member of the C&P Iris Society. Poet x Sweet Anita. \$25.00

BONNIE'S BLUEBIRD ('96) TB, M, 34". White standards with cornflower blue mid-veins, white styles edged cornflower blue. Cornflower blue falls that are fully flared, outstretched and ruffled, making the flower look like a bluebird in flight. Beards are white with yellow in throat. (Parentage uncertain). \$35.00

CHESHIRE CAT ('96) TB, ML, 34". Golden yellow standards and styles; wide maroon plum falls with lighter veining and edging, light yellow veined area around beard creating the "smile"; maroon beards tipped mustard; ruffled. Excellent branching, 7 to 9 buds. Corn Harvest x Delia's Child. \$35.00

LITTLE JOHN ('96) TB, M, 34". Lavender pink standards, darker lavender mid-veins; laced lavender pink styles; lavender falls with white mid-line; tangerine beards tipped lavender. Great substance, rippling ruffles and laced. Excellent branching, 8-11 buds. (Parentage unknown). Named in memory of a fine young man. \$35.00

LINDA LEIGH ('96) TB, ML, 35". Luminescent, light golden orange, ruffled and laced. Lighter zonal below bright, long orange beards. 9 buds. Grand Prix x Filoli. Named for a member of the Biosphere 2 Mission 1 crew. \$35.00

GINNY'S CREAM ('96) TB, M, 33". Creamy white standards with yellow basal zone. Creamy white falls with a yellow undersurface and smooth yellow hafts; beards creamy white tipped yellow; ruffled and laced. (I Do x Ringo) \$35.00

DON & GINNY SPOON

1225 Reynolds Rd., Cross Junction, VA 22625

Send \$4 for shipping if ordering from this ad and \$2 for a sale list including hundreds of rebloomers.

Nebraska-Born Irises

Hardy to -20°

Varigay Gardens 1996 Price List

JOY JOY JOY TB 1996

A beautiful amoena with a wide band of white around the falls. JOY JOY JOY is a charismatic, distinctive Iris that will be a standout in your garden.

Please indicate which one of the following Irises you would like as an extra:

SUNCATCHER TB '92 pictured page 66, *AIS Bulletin* 285

ISN'T THIS SOMETHING TB '93, pictured page 70, *AIS Bulletin* 289

BRINDLED BEAUTY TB '94, pictured page 57, *AIS Bulletin* 293

AUTUMN YEARS TB '95, pictured page 60, *AIS Bulletin* 297

Two beautiful TBs for \$35.00

BB COLLECTION 1993

CALICO KID—seedling #85-19, Venetian pink, striped bishops violet with red beard

CALORIFIC—an amoena with mauve falls and a saturn red beard

CAN DO—an attractive lavender-violet plicata with a black beard—first in International Competition 1995

BRIGHTEN THE CORNER 1995—a very bright yellow that attracts attention across the garden

VERY VARIED—Royal Purple with white streaks and yellow beard

YO—Rhodamine purple with a saturn red beard. Appears to be a red Iris in the garden.

**The above 6 beautiful Border Bearded Irises
Six for \$25.00**

IB COLLECTION 1990

Limited quantity available. For descriptive price list, see page 61, *AIS Bulletin* 297.

**10 beautiful award-winning
Intermediate Irises for \$25.00**

BB COLLECTION 1988

Limited quantity available. For description, see price list page 61, *AIS Bulletin* 297.

**8 beautiful Border-Bearded
Irises for \$25.00**

1994 SDB COLLECTION

We have a collection of beautiful standard dwarfs. To make the collection inclusive of a greater variety of color patterns, we have included two varieties of several years back. WHAT AGAIN, best out-of-region variety, Median Spree in '93, and Barry Blythe's CHANTED, a rose pink with blue beard.

There are eight 1994 introductions with these fascinating names—AGELESS, ABUZZ, ABBA ALIAS ABBA, ACEY DEUCY, TERRA VERDE, VAVOOM, AJAX THE LESS, and OOH LA LA.

We have included with the above, two 1995 introductions—

PERT—a neat little luminata
SEVENTY SEVEN—This little salmon colored Iris had 77 bloom stalks and 50 increases in a two-year clump.

A total of 12 beautiful SDBs for \$25.00

1996 BACKYARD ASSORTMENT

MARIA TORMENA TB—Award of Merit '93
BATIK BB—Runner-up for Dykes
ZINK PINK BB—Knowlton Medal, '93
WHAT AGAIN SDB—Best Out-of-Region Variety, Median Spree, '93
YO - BB—introduced '93, almost red
VAVOOM SDB—introduced '94, beautiful yellow

**The above assortment, various kinds
and various colors - 6 Irises for \$25.00**

FOR HYBRIDIZERS

Seedling 88-75 (Edith Wolford x Aspen Cove)—a beautiful reverse yellow amoena, but it needs a better stalk.

**Free with any order if requested—
\$10.00 if ordered separately**

TERMS OF SALE

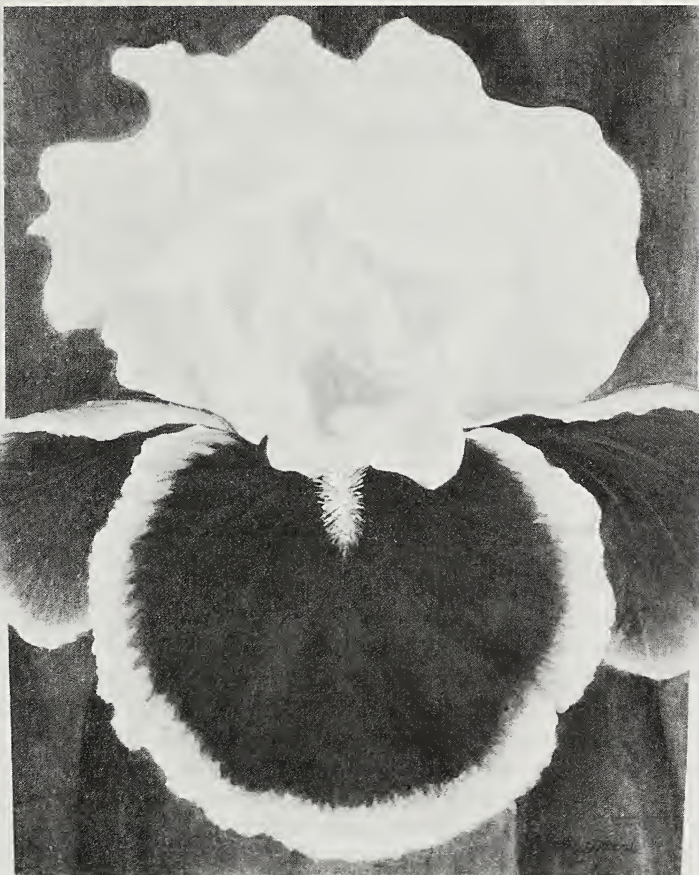
All orders will be acknowledged. Shipments will be made in same sequence as orders are received unless otherwise requested. Shipments will be made by USPS on Mondays between July 1 and Aug. 31. Irises listed in collections may not be purchased separately. *For orders less than \$50.00, please include \$3.50 to help pay for shipping.*

Varigay Gardens

7909 Cornhusker Hwy

Allan Ensminger

Lincoln, NE 68507



JOY JOY JOY

This beautiful amoena with its bright, clear color contrast fills me with joy each spring. JOY JOY JOY was supposed to be a variegated ameona, but it didn't turn out as expected. The above picture is a photograph of a portrait that was painted from memory.

The artist, Bobby Sward, is very talented. If you have a photograph of a favorite Iris, perhaps you would like to hang it as a painting in your home. Bobby Sward has Studio 6, 719 P St., Lincoln, NE 68508.

For more information regarding JOY JOY JOY see the Varigay Garden ad on the adjacent page.

VARIGAY GARDENS

7909 Cornhusker Hwy

Lincoln, NE 68507

Allan Ensminger

IN MEMORIAM

BEATRICE A. Warburton

November 6, 1903–January 18, 1996

Beatrice A. (Clark) Warburton, “Bee” to her host of friends and colleagues, died quietly at 92 years of age on the evening of January 18, 1996, just a few weeks after the death of her husband, Frank, who was a phenomenon in his own right and with whom she had shared her most unusual life for seventy years. She leaves two daughters, Lois Warburton of California and Betty Rizzo of New York, a brother, Malcolm Clark of Maine, a sister, Molly Burnham of Massachusetts, ten grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

If a career in irises can be pre-ordained, Bee’s probably was when in her early childhood she was captivated by a tall, blue iris that reappeared magically each spring in her mother’s garden. Its name was PRINCESS BEATRICE, and Bee loved telling how, as a little girl, she viewed it with wide-eyed wonder and was completely convinced it had been named for her. In all the years she immersed herself in matters iris, she never lost that sense of wonder.

The next step took place 48 years ago when she and Frank acquired four acres of land on Warburton Lane in Westborough, Massachusetts, and Frank, single-handedly for the most part, built the small, comfortable house (“Ye Fancy Coop,” the letters in the concrete walkway proclaimed) in which they spent the remainder of their lives. A rocky slope at one edge of the property begged for a rock garden, and Bee set about choosing the small plants which would inhabit it. Of course, these included the tiniest of bearded irises, the *pumila* dwarfs. From there Bee’s artistic yearnings took over, and in 1954 she began to experiment with creation. This and other related activities became a career in the truest sense of the word, spanning more than forty years. “Don’t call it a hobby!”, she teased a newspaper interviewer a few years ago. “I’ve never had a hobby—I put too much work into everything I do.”

The work was a resounding success from the beginning. A quick review of the awards lists from 1958 through 1995 reveals more than 80 HM awards, 20 AMs, the Caparne Award, two Cook-Douglas Awards, five Cook-Douglas Medals and the Knowlton Medal, not to mention medals in all colors (gold, silver and bronze) from foreign competitions. The national awards encompass seven horticultural classes: MDB, SDB, IB, MTB, BB, Siberian and species. There was even a “Favorite Garden Iris” award for her one and only Japanese introduction (TRANCE—1979) at the Society for Japanese Iris convention in Portland, Maine in 1990. Many visitors to the convention were unaware that Bee had ever so much as pollinated a Japanese iris, but in fact, she worked to some extent with virtually every class that grows in New England; there were at least one tall bearded and one spuria that, but for her rigorous standards, might have been named.

Of course, the award winners represent only a small portion of Bee’s work product: many less heralded introductions and hundreds of numbered

seedlings from experimental crosses with species and all classes of cultivars were shared with other breeders who might make use of them (author included) and they, too, are part of Bee's legacy to the iris world.

Along with the artistic urges that started all of this, Bee had a virtually insatiable appetite for knowledge. Her creative vision was coupled with a fine, penetrating intelligence and exceptional analytical skills. As important to her as the quality of her seedlings was the genetic information they provided, and perhaps more important than that, the questions they raised. Each of the latter occupied a "project explicate" section of her notebooks, containing her observations and ruminations, excerpts from her voluminous correspondence with other breeders, her own and others' experiments and progeny reports, and such conclusions as were possible from the assembled materials. Sometimes the answers were not what she hoped for or eluded her completely, but even that she viewed as preferable to never having asked the questions. When solid information resulted (e.g., the identification of the luminata allele at the plicata locus), it was shared liberally with others, both in her published works and throughout her personal communications network. Someone's work would ultimately benefit, and she delighted as much in the successes of others as in her own.

Bee had an uncanny talent for human beings as well as irises, and could be downright subversive in her ability to get people moving and things happening. She was more than a little instrumental in the formation of many iris groups, paramount among them the Median Iris Society, of which she was a founder, the first Secretary and the second President, but also including the Society for Japanese irises, of which she was the first Secretary. Closer to home, she was involved, behind, before, between and among the scenes, in just about everything that took place in Region One.

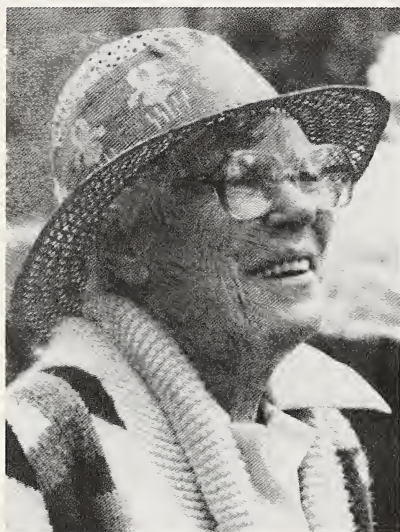
She was a gifted and prolific writer and editor. All of us are, of course, aware of her largest work, *The World of Irises*, the current AIS "bible," which she edited with the help of Melba Hamblen. She also served for many years as editor of the Median Iris Society's publication, *The Medianite*, was Foreign News Editor as well as Median Iris Society Representative for the AIS *Bulletin*, authored the section on judging of median irises in the 1965 *Handbook For Judges and Show Officials*, edited, with Charlotte Gantz, *The Eupogon Iris Species in Cultivation*, a detailed compilation of the information then available on bearded species, published by the Median Iris Society in 1970, and was responsible for much of the translation of the Rumanian and French portions of Iuliu Prodan's *Bearded Iris Species of Rumania* (sometimes referred to as the "Prodan papers"). In addition, she authored numberless articles for national, international, sectional, regional and local publications.

For her vast contribution to her chosen specialty, Beatrice Warburton has been honored publicly many times, receiving The American Iris Society's Hybridizer's Medal in 1966 and the Distinguished Service Medal in 1972, as well as the British Iris Society's Foster Memorial Plaque in 1975. And in November, 1984, she was chosen by the Board of Directors as the tenth recipient of The American Iris Society Gold Medal.

Privately, Bee was honored, revered and very much loved by all of the iris people whose lives she touched, and they are legion. Among my special

treasures is Bee's copy of Molly Price's gem, *The Iris Book*, and on the fly-leaf is this inscription: "For the Bee, whom I love dearly but seldom see; who has guided, if not carried, the pollen for my crosses; and whose knowledge buzzes through many pages of this book . . . Molly". I can't put it better than that.

Lynn Markham



Bee Warburton



C. J. Lack

IN MEMORIAM
CHARLES JENNINGS LACK
October 17, 1922–January 25, 1996

Irisarians from across Oklahoma gathered in Tulsa on January 29 to pay respects to the memory of former Publication Sales Director, Charles J. Lack, known to most iris and daylily growers as "C. J."

C. J. was a hard worker and a no-nonsense person. He believed in doing a job right the first time so there was no need to worry about it later. He was a dedicated worker for iris and daylily clubs across Oklahoma, and especially for the Tulsa Area Iris Society. He joined that group at their second meeting back in 1962.

C. J. and his wife, Kitty, traveled to other states to attend iris activities, and folks in Tennessee, Texas, and New Mexico considered them as part of their regions. The Lacks usually drove to conventions so AIS members could have the opportunity to buy AIS supplies they hauled to those conventions. He was as dedicated to doing a good job as Publication Sales Director as he was to everything else he did. He served in that office from 1987 to 1995.

C. J. was a member of iris clubs in Tulsa, Ponca City, Stillwater, Oklahoma City, and Enid, helping all of them with his donations and attendance. He belonged to a daylily club in Oklahoma City and was happy that a new club was being formed in Tulsa. Its organizational meeting was the only one that he could attend.

He loved sharing plants. His contributions to sales were hundreds of well-grown plants. If he learned that a friend wanted a particular variety, he gave it to them. If he thought you might not know how to care for a plant, he explained what should be done to assure success.

Many women in AIS own pieces of iris jewelry fashioned from wood by C. J., and many plaques, garden signs and other carvings adorn the homes of irisarians. These were usually a distinctive pattern that was connected with the person's work. Each of the pieces is beautiful and crafted in loving friendship especially for the recipient.

In 1995 Region 22 honored C. J. and Kitty with the Betty Emmons Memorial Service Medal, the highest honor that the region bestows. In 1994, AIS awarded him the Distinguished Service Medal for his work as Publication Sales Director.

C. J. spent many years as an employee of an oil company, and he spent part of that time working in Liberia. Many of his co-workers attended his funeral services, showing the same respect for his work ethic and friendship that we in the iris society know.

C. J. and Kitty were married over 50 years, and they worked together perfectly as a team. It was C. J.'s love for Kitty that caused him to resign as Publication Sales Director when his health began to fail. He didn't want her to do the monumental tasks of that job alone.

He is survived by his wife, Kitty, and two sons, Mike and Greg. He is also survived by a host of friends who knew him as a hard worker, one who expected everyone to do the best they could, and a generous and loving man. We were all fortunate to have known him. We treasure the gifts he gave us, the greatest of which was his friendship.

Ron Mullin

IN MEMORIAM **MARY LOUISE DUNDERMAN** **(1916-1995)**

Mary Louise Dunderman of Akron, Ohio, passed away after a short illness in a nursing home on November 1, 1995. Her health had deteriorated for the last few years.

Mary Louise worked as a secretary for and later retired from Harwick Chemical Company. She lived at the old family home, caring for her mother after her father's death and then cared for two brothers, Jack and Frank. Jack passed away a couple of years ago, and Frank lives at the Dunderman home.

For years she raised, bred and grew Persian cats. As with iris, she was successful with this hobby. Her black Persian cat, named "Nightcap," was an All-American in 1955, meaning he was the best long-haired black Persian cat in both the United States and Canada.

Mary Louise began growing and hybridizing tall bearded irises in 1953. She also hybridized miniature dwarf bearded and aril-breds for a time. She was, at this time, active in the Dwarf Iris Society and a friend of Walter Welch in Middlebury, Indiana. In her travels to Middlebury, she learned more about irises and hybridizing. It was interesting to hear her describe the opportunities in her life, as she says, by "rubbing shoulders" with some of the leading and prominent hybridizers in the midwest in those years—Walter Welch, Paul Cook, Earl Roberts, Dave Hall and others.

With the revival of interest in the miniature tall bearded or table iris by Mrs. David (Alice) White of Hemet, California in the early 1950s, Mary Louise became interested in hybridizing MTBs. Along with others, she began collecting various iris species and the old diploids. These served as the foundation for her long, rich career and success in hybridizing MTBs, which she loved above all classes of iris.

Any and all who visited the Dunderman iris garden stood in awe at her work. Her garden consisted of a display bed containing both her latest MTBs and the latest MTBs from other hybridizers. The many other long rows were raised, neat and well-fed and well-grown.

In 1993, the AIS awarded Mary Louise its prestigious AIS Hybridizer's Medal in recognition of her outstanding hybridizing work with MTBs. It was an award well-given and of which she was very proud.

Her success with MTBs is enviable. Mary Louise introduced 33 MTBs of which 29 have received 36 awards. She has won the coveted Williamson-White Award six times (CAROLYN ROSE '74, PANDA '80, DOLL RIBBONS '82, CHICKEE '84, ROSEMARY'S DREAM '86, CRYSTAL RUFFLES '91, and the Williamson-White Medal with ROSEMARY'S DREAM '94). In addition, Mary Louise has won 29 Honorable Mention and two Awards of Merit, an outstanding and an impressive record in one class of iris.

In 1986, we combined our efforts under the OHIO GARDENS logo. In the spring of 1995, we selected and will be introducing several of her MTBs over the next few years. The iris world and Region 6 have lost a valued worker, friend and lover of iris. I will miss her and miss visiting her gardens and home. I have lost a friend, an advisor, correspondent and business partner.

Mary Louise was buried in The Holy Cross Cemetery in Akron, Ohio. She is survived by one brother, Frank, and one nephew, Gregg Dunderman of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.

W. Terry Varner

IN MEMORIAM

Stanley Aranowski (Arizona)	Grant Helmic (Michigan)
Laureen Arbuthnot (Colorado)	Karl F. Jensen (Illinois)
Gladys Austin (California)	Dorothy M. Marr (Maryland)
Hazel C. Black (New York)	Georgia Maxim (California)
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Sadie Edwards (North Carolina)	Mrs. Lee Shelton (Oklahoma)
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Charles Hare (North Carolina)	Mrs. W. R. Walters (Montana)

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All advertising copy and photographs, except color which requires individual arrangements, must be received by the Advertising Editor by April 15 (July Issue), July 15 (October Issue), October 15 (January Issue) and January 15 (April Issue).

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Jean Erickson, Advertising Editor
4036 Trinity Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95405

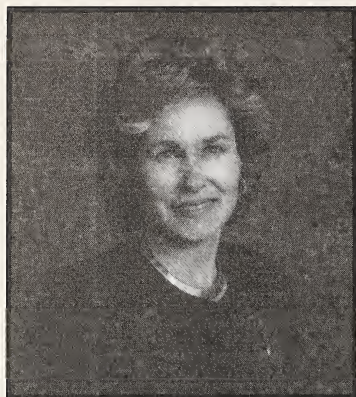
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YOUTH VIEWS

Jean E. Morris

HOW TO BUILD AN ENGLISH BOX—NEW EASY METHOD

The English Box has been used in iris shows for many years as part of the Horticulture Division. It is a unique way to display irises and one that is enjoyed by the general public. In the past, the boxes were usually made of plywood; and as described in the Judges Handbook, they contained jars of sand to hold the irises in place. This resulted in a heavy box which could not be stored on its side because the sand would leak out.

Susan Sanders, a member of the Kirkwood Iris Society, an AIS affiliate in the St. Louis area, developed a practical, new method of construction for the English Box. This updated design is very easy to build, and because it is lightweight, it is easy to carry. No sand is involved, so the box may be stored on its side, if desired. MAKING THE BOXES BY THIS NEW METHOD COULD EASILY BE A YOUTH GROUP PROJECT—with a little adult assistance.

Materials: Styrofoam sheets—Purchase these at your local lumber yard or home supply. They are 8 feet long, 2 feet wide and 2 inches thick and are commonly used as wall insulation. The material has a little “give” to it instead of being brittle. One sheet makes 2½ boxes.

Plastic flower vials—Use the kind with rubber caps, available at florists.

Fabric to cover box—Use black cotton and look for sale prices.

Procedure: Cut foam sheets with electric knife into rectangles, 24 inches by 18 inches. Each sheet will yield 5 rectangles and a small throw-away scrap. Two rectangles are needed for each box.

Use white glue to secure 2 rectangles together, one on top of the other. This will make the box 4 inches thick.

Make a template of thin cardboard to lay on top of box to use as a guide when holes are drilled. Measure exactly (see diagram). Use an electric drill with ½ inch paddle drill bit and drill holes all the way through both layers of foam, from top to bottom. Be prepared to clean up cutting and drilling debris with vacuum cleaner.

Use approximately 1 yard of 36 or 45 inch width fabric for each box. Cut fabric so there will be about 3 to 4 inches of overlap onto the bottom side. Zigzag any raw edges, or use fray check. Wrap box in the fabric as you would wrap a package, tucking and folding on the ends neatly, and securing with several straight pins dipped in white glue to anchor. The black fabric was applauded by all who saw the boxes in use. The dark color made for a rich look. Forest green would be a good second choice. It was agreed that lighter colors did not show off the irises to advantage. Also, a matte finish is desirable so there is no glare when photographing the display.

Use an Exacto knife to cut holes in fabric where vials are to be placed. Insert vials. These may be raised or lowered so irises of different sizes can be displayed, with falls just clearing box surface. Vials may be removed for cleaning, filling or emptying.

Place a stick-on label on back of box to identify the owner (individual or club).

Expenses: Each box costs about \$5 to make, a bit less if fabric is on sale. Styrofoam is less than \$5 per sheet. Vials are about 5¢ each—use 6 per box. The prices of fabric vary quite a bit—anywhere from \$1.49 to \$3.99 per yard in the St. Louis area.

Remember, only one entry tag is used for an English Box and it is placed on the table in front of the box. The box is judged as a unit, so only one ribbon is awarded, if merited. Section awards and rosettes may be given, and ribbons received for English Box displays count in the tally for Silver and Bronze Medals/Certificates. The English Box is not eligible for the “best of show” award, however.

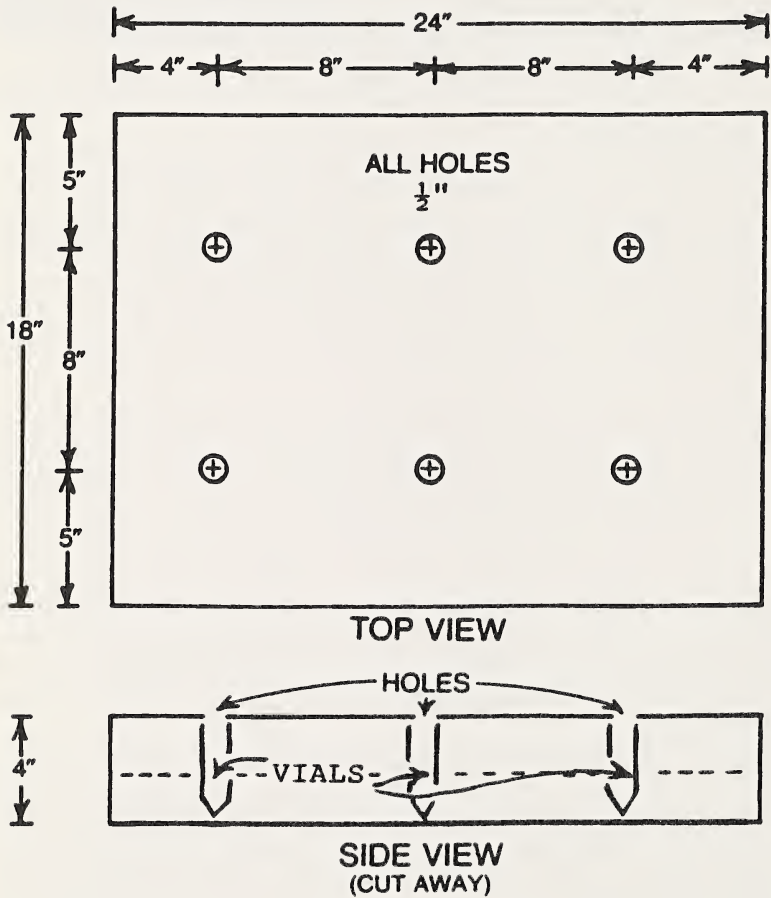
Five or six irises, all the same type (TB, SDB, Siberian, etc.) are displayed in the box and must be correctly identified by name. Use a 3 X 5 card for this and place card on box at center edge. If only five irises are displayed, place card over sixth vial. Follow closely, any requirements written in the Show Schedule. Keep iris sizes similar, unless otherwise required, and pay attention to color coordination.

The size box designated in the illustration works well for most iris types. MDBs and other tiny irises would require a smaller box to look their best.

Advantages of using the English Box are many. If a new introduction is being grown, some people are reluctant to cut a single stalk but would be willing to display one nice flower as part of an English Box. If the terminal bloom

on your best show stalk closes the morning of the show, all is not lost if another of its blooms is placed in your English Box. If your garden is past peak and lacks good stalks, there will be plenty of good individual blooms left. Likewise, hail, rain or other typical pre-show disasters usually leave behind a few perfect blossoms, but not entire stalks. If by a miracle, the weather during iris bloom is perfect some year, it is still nice to show off your irises in a new, FUN format. So youths and adults alike should build and use the English Box. You'll be glad you did! And our thanks to Susan for her great instructions!

**DIAGRAM OF ENGLISH BOX SHOWING DIMENSIONS
AND PLACEMENT OF VIALS**



CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

July 22, 1995 to February 1, 1996

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Jackson Iris Society (MS)

Ramona Blodgett (WI)

Wisconsin Iris Society (WI)

Nadine Yunker (WI)

Joe Christopher (AL)

Hilda Crick (TN)

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Hot Springs Iris Society (AR)

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Bennett & Evelyn Jones (OR)

*Suky & Clarence Mahan (VA)
David & Barbara Schmieder
(MA)

Ethel Wheatley (SC)

Piedmont Carolina Iris Society
(SC)

Jesse M. Wilson (SC)

Piedmont Carolina Iris Society
(SC)

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Dodo Denny (KS)

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(NY)

**Youth Achievement Award
Fund**

****AIS Region 18 (KS & MO)

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(MO)

**AIS Research and Scholarship
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**The New Mexico Iris Society (NM)

*AIS Library Fund

**Research and Scholarship Fund

***Fund for color in the *Bulletin*

****Clark Cosgrove Youth Achieve-
ment Award Fund

CONTRIBUTIONS AND MEMORIAL GIFTS

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY: Send to The American Iris Society, Jeanne Plank, Secretary, 8426 Vine Valley Drive, Sun Valley, CA 91352-3656

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY FOUNDATION: Send to AIS Foundation, Richard T. Pettijohn, Treasurer, 122 S. 39th, Apt 604, Omaha, NE 68131. Donations to the Foundation and AIS are tax deductible.

Note: Please include name and address of next-of-kin pertaining to memorial gifts, so that a card of acknowledgment may be sent. Checks should be payable to the American Iris Society or the American Iris Society Foundation.

1996 MEMBERSHIP CONTEST

The 1996 Membership Contest follows the same rules as those used in 1995. Three separate and distinct awards will be presented at the 1997 Convention—one to the youth, one to the adult and one to the affiliate with the most total points. *A minimum of 30 points is necessary to qualify for the award.* Certificates of achievement will be awarded to individual youths, adults and affiliates in each region who participate. Names of the award and certificate winners will be published in the future.

Each affiliate must decide whether its members will participate as individuals or as a group.

Point Scale

- 10 points for each new single annual membership
- 10 points for each new youth member added to an existing adult membership
- 15 points for each new dual annual membership
- 20 points for each new single triennial
- 25 points for each new dual triennial
- 25 points for each new youth member registered as a solitary member

The following points will be given for conversion from annual to triennial membership, providing the membership has been in effect for a minimum of one year.

- 10 points for converting from single triennial to dual triennial
- 15 points for converting from single annual to single triennial
- 25 points for converting from dual annual to dual triennial
- 100 points for each single life membership
- 150 points for each dual life membership

Rules

1. Membership application and payment of dues are made directly to the AIS Membership Secretary and may be submitted by the recruiter or by the new member.

2. The RVP or Membership Chairman of the contestant's Region and the AIS Contest Chairman (Lynda S. Miller, 3167 E. U.S. 224, Ossian, IN 46777) should be notified by the recruiter within 30 days.

3. Each new membership should be reported on separate 3 x 5 cards. The following information is needed: the name, complete address and region number of the new member; the type of membership or conversion—annual, triennial, or life; the name, address, and region of the recruiter. Only those memberships reported correctly will be awarded points.

4. Renewal of memberships following a lapse of two years will count as new members.

5. New memberships received by the Membership Contest Chairman post-marked after October 1, 1996 cannot be counted for the 1996 contest but will be automatically credited to the recruiter for the 1997 contest.

1995 MEMBERSHIP CONTEST

Lynda Miller

INDIVIDUALS

1. Kathy Guest	Region 2	710 points
2. Mary Herrington	Region 23	175 points
3. Virginia Spina	Region 2	155 points
4. Kathleen Colburn	Region 2	105 points
5. Ms. Cen Waters	Region 4	45 points
6. Helen Walsh	Region 4	40 points
7. Kathryn Mohr	Region 2	35 points
7. Margaret Stone	Region 4	35 points
9. Diana Hunter	Region 4	25 points
9. Anne Lowe	Region 4	25 points
11. Everette Lineberger	Region 5	20 points
12. Ruth Denit	Region 4	15 points
12. Ann Dumlér	Region 4	15 points
12. Janice L. Haney	Region 2	15 points
12. Bob Kendall	Region 1	15 points
16. Euthemia Matsoukas	Region 2	10 points
17. Individuals	5 regions	

YOUTH

1. Danika King	Region 18	45 points
2. Kevin Gormley	Region 18	30 points

AFFILIATES

1. Chesapeake and Potomac Iris Society	Region 4	1065 points
2. Iris Club of Southeast Michigan	Region 6	400 points
3. Francis Scott Key Iris Society	Region 4	265 points
4. Blue Ridge Iris Society	Region 4	195 points
5. Port. Ches. Suffolk Iris Society	Region 4	155 points
6. Diamond State Iris Society	Region 3	140 points
7. Charlotte Iris Society	Region 4	110 points
8. Utah Iris Society	Region 12	95 points
9. Tidewater Iris Society	Region 4	50 points
10. Allegheny Highlands Iris Society	Region 4	40 points
11. Eastern Shore Iris Society	Region 4	20 points
11. Fredericksburg Area Iris Society	Region 4	20 points
13. Carolina Mountain Iris Society	Region 4	10 points
13 Societies	4 regions	

- 149 single annual memberships
- 5 new youth without *Bulletin*
- 28 dual annual memberships
- 24 single triennial memberships
- 5 dual triennial memberships
- 3 youth with *Bulletin*
- 23 conversions single annual to single triennial
- 8 conversions dual annual to dual triennial
- 2 single life memberships
- 4 dual life memberships

FROM THE EDITOR

Elsewhere in this issue you will find an advertisement for a video on irises. This is something that I recommend to clubs who are looking for something that is basic and will be helpful to beginning members. It is also good entertainment for the old-timers.

Remember to send all *Bulletin* articles to Terry Aitken of Vancouver, Washington. He will be the editor when the July issue is prepared.

With this issue, my term as editor comes to an end. I have edited the last 34 regular issues of the *Bulletin*, and I did one issue in 1974.

Being editor was a job I never really wanted to do. It's a difficult and thankless task, usually. The editor must rely on others to provide articles, and I thank all those people who have done so over the years.

When I became editor, my goals were to get the *Bulletin* out on time and to have it as accurate as possible. Too many factors enter into the production to guarantee either goal can be met. One must rely on others to meet deadlines, and that doesn't always happen. Once, I stayed up all night to finish a paste-up so an issue could be started before a long holiday break began. At 5:30 a.m., I went to bed, and at 7 a.m. I received a phone call with a request that I correct something insignificant like an initial. At those times the job was intolerable, but most of the time, it was fun. It was fun because of the nice people involved.

My first editing job was in 1967 when I edited the Oklahoma Iris Society newsletter. That was followed by a long stint as editor of the *Sooner State Iris News* and the *Region 22 Bulletin*. Nothing I did on the local or regional level compared with the *AIS Bulletin* in difficulty.

Tragic irony exists where my work as AIS editor is concerned. I sat at the hospital with my dad in 1974 as I served as guest editor. He didn't live to see the finished product. As I began work on this April issue and finished up the January issue, I sat with my mother. She passed away on December 26, and she won't see the finished product either. I offer this as a partial explanation of why your January issue came in February.

So many people need to be thanked for helping me, but this is not the place to list many AIS names. I must say thanks to Betty Crouch of Johnson Graphics for all the extra things she has done for AIS and for me. To my Associate Editor, Rachel Drumm, just saying thank you seems inadequate. For nearly 30 years she has been a tremendous helper and friend. Thanks to everyone who wrote articles, sent letters of praise or spoke of their appreciation. And last, a very special thank you to my wonderful friends for always being there for me, especially during 1995 when I needed you so very much. To everyone in AIS, thanks for the opportunity to serve our organization. Iris people are special.

GARDEN of the EAST WIND

Mel & Lynn Bausch

11530 N. Laguna Drive

Mequon, Wisconsin 53092-3120

SMILE A MILE (L. Bausch '96) SDB 10½" EM. S. ruffled full yellow (RHS 21C), midribs lt. green at base, laced full yellow styles; F. full yellow, tan-yellow hafts; full yellow beard. Slight sweet fragrance. Moonspinner x Lilacil X Flirty Mary.....\$12.00

BYE BYE BIRDIE (L. Bausch '96) SDB 10½" EM. S. ruffled cream (RHS 190), midrib and border medium yellow (18A), styles medium yellow blending to violet; F. cream, medium yellow border, darker yellow beside medium blue violet beard. Slight sweet fragrance. Angelic x Ivory Shimmer X Azure Gem\$12.00

HAPPY CAMPER (L. Bausch '96) SDB 9" M. S. white ground, full red violet rib and hash marks, pale blue styles; F. white ground, wide border red violet hash marks; full gold beard tipped white. Slight sweet fragrance. Bashful Bunny X Prisoner..... \$12.00

Please include \$3.00 for shipping.

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1991.....	\$6.00	1994
1992.....	\$6.00	1995
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Phone (615) 834-0401

1996 INTRODUCTIONS

of

Betty Wilkerson

10116 Scottsville Road

Alvaton, KY 42122

502-782-7498



Well, here we have another iris spring! All those dreams of irises in bloom brought us through another winter! I'm back in college so the catalog will be a little limited this year. No orders shipped after August 15, 1996. **Shipping \$6.00.**

ALVATON ANGEL: (B. Wilkerson) Sdlg. #E28-1: (Lemon Duet X Heavenly Angels) TB, 35", E-M, (No rebloom in KY) White self, beard tipped yellow in the throat. Grows and blooms profusely, with perk and attitude. A good early garden variety.

\$35.00

DELIGHTFUL STRANGER: (B. Wilkerson) Sdlg. #F25-1: (Feedback X Magic Man) TB, 36", L, (Rebloomed in 94, but would be a "sporadic" in mild climates at best.) S. aqua blue (green cast), F. royal blue. Orange beard. Great color combination with tailored form.

\$35.00

JOURNEY: (B. Wilkerson) Sdlg. #F30-CoBr (Her Royal Highness X Inferno) TB, 38", M-L. Red self. Outstanding color, height, and branching. Had garden visitors talking the spring of 1995. It dominated the late garden. Best of several good seedlings. No Re.

\$35.00

REBOUND: (B. Wilkerson) Sdlg. #F31-1Re: (Highland Chief X Earl of Essex) TB, 34", E & Rebloom (Oct in KY) S. greyed red. F. cream overlaid standard color. This is my first introduction in the red over white/yellow plicata lines. Much more to come.

\$35.00

SUMMER RADIANCE: (B. Wilkerson) Sdlg. #E31-1Re: (Lemon Reflection X Hindenburg) TB, 35", VE & VVL. This starts to bloom again two weeks after the end of regular bloom season. This one is a bright, screaming, "Hey, look at me" yellow self. Will be noticed in the early garden.

\$50.00

CROSS YOUR FINGERS

SDB (Godfrey, A '96) 10" EM Sdlg. #BA87.

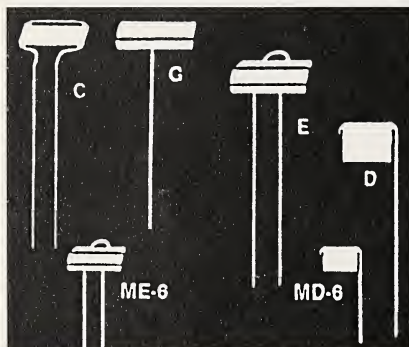
Gold-saturated ruffled standards, pie crust-edged flaring falls, thick golden orange beards—it's so bright it glows in the rain! A vigorous grower, great substance and excellent plant habits. Extremely fertile both ways. \$12.50

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Exceptionally vigorous plants sporting blended purple-red violet flowers with bushy blue beards, (gold in throat). From SIGNA Seed collected in the North Caucasus, supplied by Dr. G. Rodionenko. Fertile both ways.\$10.00

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MARGARET BEAUFORT (L. Burton '94) 23" Violet, lemon beards. Popular at the York AIS Convention. Pod fertile. (Louise Hopper X Miss Nellie).....\$12.00

MELLOW FELLOW (L. Burton '95) 22-23" S. Tawny yellow F. white, edged yellow. Sib. to Margaret Beaufort. Fertile both ways.....\$18.00

MTB BILLIE THE BROWNIE (J. Burton '92) Golden brown blend with purple wash on the falls. Fertile both ways. HM '95.....\$6.00

SDB SUN SPRITE (L. Burton '93) Perky yellow bitone. Fine form. \$6.00

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Lucy G. Burton

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It is an honor to present two award-winning releases from northern Italy. These are the first American introductions from Italy's newest hybridizer, Augusto Bianco.

AZZURRA (Bianco '96). TB, 37" (93 cm), Midseason. From a classic cross, this variety captures the best of both parents. A pure azure blue self, as clear and shimmering as the skies over Florence on a crisp spring morning. Light blue beards, changing to yellow in the heart. Gently ruffled. A vision of health, both in the production of plants and in the formation of its stalks with 3 well-spaced branches, 8 buds. Honorable Mention (8th Place) in the 1993 Premio Firenze competition in Florence. Seedling #114: (Olympiad X Shipshape). \$30.00

ROSSETTO (Bianco '96). TB, 36" (90 cm), Midseason-Late. This new red made a strong impression on me the first day I saw it during the 1993 Firenze competition. Imagine our surprise when, on the last day of the competition, the secret box was opened and it was revealed that this masculine red was hybridized by a "local boy"! Rosetto is a lightly waved full oxblood red with heavy substance, excellent heat resistance, and a magnificent velvet texture. Simply incredible stalks, with 3 to 4 branches, 10 buds well-timed. Lush deep blue-green foliage, and a strong increaser. Deep brown beards are tipped bronze. It has a sensuous spicy fragrance. For the hybridizer, the parentage should open up a whole new approach to working with reds. Third Place and Best Red in Florence, 1993. Seedling #315: (Red Rose X (Natchez Trace x Post Time)). \$30.00

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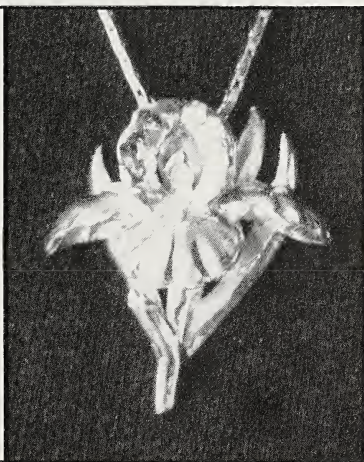
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INTRODUCTIONS from DAVE NISWONGER

- ADRIATIC BLUE** (Niswonger '96) Sdlg. Sp 3-93: Missouri Rivers X Russian Blue (This pollen parent is questionable. The flower appears to be too good to be a second generation from the species, *I. klattii*—could be self pollinated.) Spuria, 42" (107 cm), M. Despite its questionable parentage, you will find that this is one of the most beautiful deep blues you have seen with a very contrasty gold in the center of the falls or you could say, gold falls with a deep blue rim. It sets seeds but not as readily as you would expect which may indicate that the parent is indeed Russian Blue. The pollen is fertile.....\$30.00
- BRIAR PATCH** (Niswonger '96) Sdlg. SDB 29-92: 8-88 sib: (Hooligan x unknown) X 16-88: (Hoodwink x Unknown). SDB, 13" (33 cm), ML. This is a nice combination of deep tan and dark brown with the dark brown being in the center of the falls. The purple beards are lightly tipped with bronze which adds to the distinctiveness of this flower. The ruffled falls are flared making it easily viewed from above. Fertile both ways.....\$15.00
- CONSIDER THIS** (Niswonger '96) Sdlg. SDB 25-93:28-91: ((Adoring Glances x (Little Annie x Unknown)) X 42-91: (Chubby Cheeks x Goddess). SDB, 14" (37 cm), M. Another example of using a genotype of an intermediate (which has a TB, Goddess, as one of the parents (in 42-91)) thus giving an unusual combination of genes to produce something really different. The standards and style arms are blue-violet and the falls are a pinkish buff making a very pleasing bicolor set off with a blue beard which is similar to the stds. The form is somewhat tailored and the plant is vigorous. Another distinctive SDB for your collection. The name was provided by Gloria Fairhead of Annapolis, MD.....\$15.00
- ENGLISH WHITE** (Niswonger '96) Sdlg. PS 1-93: *I. pseudacorus* E. turnipseed x Unknown from seed from the British Iris Society, SPEC, 40" (102 cm), M. This white *pseudacorus* has a slight light maroon eyezone with fair vigor. A good parent for whites. Fertile both ways.....\$25.00
- ERIN STROLL** (Niswonger '96) Sdlg. BB 30-92: Nefertiti's Daughter X Coral Light. TB, 25" (64 cm), M. From the parentage, you may be surprised to learn that this is a Border Bearded iris, an ivory self with green infusion and a beard that is white with a marigold base. I was really impressed when I first saw it on a windy day. Its starchiness was taking the wind quite well. It was very vigorous and hardy. The stems are straight and an easy grower.....\$25.00
- GARDEN WHISPERS** (Niswonger '96) Sdlg. SDB 3-92: Little Louie X Unknown. SDB, 12" (31 cm), E. A bicolor with pale blue standards and yellow falls rimmed with white. The crests and inner part of the flower are light blue which adds to the bicolor effect. The beards are pale blue with a white base which adds to the softness of these colors. The falls are slightly ruffled and flared. Fertile both ways. It was named by Joy Seckler from Greenfield, TN.....\$15.00
- GODDESS OF BLUE** (Niswonger '96) Sdlg. IB 57-91: Chubby Cheeks X Goddess. IB, 25" (64 cm), M. A deep blue plicata with a white beard tipped with tangerine. The style arms are deep blue too. This intermediate is a good grower and will make a mass of blooms in a clump for the early season. A fine harbinger of things to come.....\$20.00
- GODDESS OF GREEN** (Niswonger '96) Sdlg. IB 64-91: Goddess X Chubby Cheeks. IB, 26" (66 cm), M. Many colors came from this cross and this was one of the most unusual—a chartreuse plicata. The beard has a blue-white effect. Its a good grower and a different color for this class.\$20.00
- GODDESS OF LUCK** (Niswonger '96) Sdlg. IB 23-92: Chubby Cheeks X ?? (Probably Goddess). IB, 25" (64 cm), M. A plicata with unusual markings. Here is a blue plicata with an outer rim of yellow. The style arms are buff. The beards are blue with the hairs tipped bronze. It's almost a yellow-blue blend plicata. An easy bloomer.\$20.00

- HALFWAY TO HEAVEN** (Niswonger '96) Sdlg. 45-92: Pink Blue Genes X Hamblen H81-54A: (((H74-68B x Jack R. Dee) x (H74-68B x H74-70)) x Song of Norway). TB, 34" (86 cm), M. This blue-pink self has one-third of the front part of the beard blue and the rest is tangerine. This large wide-hafted tall bearded is very vigorous with nice branching and a good breeder for pinks with blue beards. It received an EC in '93 at Region 18's seedling show. It was named by Polly Chism from Festus, MO.\$35.00
- KIWI WINE** (Niswonger '96) Sdlg. SDB 18-91: Kiwi Slices X Unknown. SDB, 12" (31 cm), M. Here is another distinctive Standard Dwarf that will add color to your early iris garden. The standards and style arms are light burgundy and the falls are a deep burgundy with a light burgundy rim. The blue beards add a nice contrast. Fertile.\$15.00
- MISSOURI CLOUDS** (Niswonger '96) Sdlg. Sp 1-93: Sp 4-88: (Sp 6-80: (Far Out x Redwood Supreme) x Unknown) X Chocolate Fudge. This is a large white spuria with a yellow blush in the falls. Its 42 inches tall (107 cm) and a midseason bloomer. A good grower and easy bloomer. It appears to take cold weather well. Fertile both ways.\$30.00
- MISSOURI SUNSET** (Niswonger '96) Sdlg. Sp 6-92: Parentage unknown. Spuria, 42" (107 cm), M. This is a yellow self with a deeper gold signal in the falls. It may be a bit deeper yellow than Sunrise in Missouri. It germinated a year later than the rest so I lost its parentage. It too is a good grower and fertile both ways.\$30.00
- NOTHING BUT NET** (Niswonger '96) Sdlg. 63-93: Blue Chip Pink X Hamblen H81-54H: (((H74-68B x Jack R. Dee) x (H74-68B x H74-70)) x Song of Norway). TB, 34" (86 cm), M. A half sibling to Halfway to Heaven with the same robust characteristics. It's a lilac self with the falls slightly lighter than the stds. The beard is blue in the front and sienna in the rear making a nice combination. Fertile both ways.\$35.00
- ORANGE GUMDROPS** (Niswonger '96) Sdlg. SDB 1-92: Pink Caper X Lankow 2A-28-3: (Spring Bonnet x Maybelle Wright L-85: (Blue Trinket x Cotton Blossom)). SDB, 10" (25 cm), E. Here we have another example of intermediates being used to improve the pink in SDB's. In this case an IB is involved on the pod parent side with Blushes an IB parent of Pink Caper and Spring Bonnet an IB in the pollen parent. However, this variety is an orange self with orange beards. The stds. are slightly lighter than the falls. This one rebloomed for me the same year it was lined out but hasn't rebloomed since. Fertile both ways.\$15.00
- RIVULETS OF PINK** (Niswonger '96) Sdlg. Sp 10-94: Sp 8-88: (Sp 6-80: (Far Out x Redwood Supreme) x Unknown)) X Firemist. Spuria, 42" (107 cm), M. An approach to a pink Spuria. It is a pinkish mauve with an overlay of yellow in the center of the falls. Wide hafts and fair branching add to the features of this plant. Fertile both ways.\$30.00
- WELDER'S FLAME** (Niswonger '96) Sdlg. SDB 22-92: Chubby Cheeks X ??. SDB, 12" (31 cm), M. A light blue self with soft blushes of yellow at the hafts touched off by a huge blue beard. Wide hafts and nice form make this a fine addition to this class. Fertile both ways.\$15.00
- WILDCAT PAJAMAS** (Niswonger '96) Sdlg. SDB 13-92: Chubby Cheeks X Court Magician. SDB, 14" (37 cm), M. This white ground purple plicata has only a small area in the stds. and falls for the white ground. The style arms are purple and the beard is medium blue. This one will give you a mass of bloom. Named by Evelyn Henricks from Kansas, a total Jayhawk fan whose father always wore striped pajamas. Purple and white are the colors for Kansas State. Fertile.\$15.00
- WRONG SONG** (Niswonger '96) Sdlg. IB 15-92: Little Louie X Unknown. IB, 25" (64 cm), M. A combination of wild and weird colors. The stds. are violet with the midribs shaded darker and the falls are brown with edging of near white. The style arms are light violet and the beards are yellow-bronze. A good vigorous grower. Named by Dorothy Vande of New Berlin, WI. EC '93.\$20.00

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CAPE IRIS GARDENS

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NEW IRIS FROM THE CRAIGS FOR 1996

All of these varieties are 48 chromosome tetraploids.

ARRIVAL, SDB, VL, 15". A perky, dainty, white with yellow beard; this has short foliage, slender stalks, two branches and three buds. Blooms with the early TB's. Pod fertile, no pollen, not fragrant. (9N2: ((En Route x Pink Taffeta) x (New Moon x (Sacred Mountain x aphylla "Werkmeister"))) x Little Sunrise) X (Star Child x (Sacred Mountain x aphylla "Werkmeister")). #C25V8.\$15.00

DEPARTURE, IB, L, 24". Heavily ruffled white self, beard pale yellow deep in the heart. Well proportioned in all its parts, this plant can have four branches and nine buds. Foliage can nearly disappear in winter. Fertile both ways and fragrant. New Wave sib. X (((Starchild x (En Route x (Sacred Mountain x aphylla "Werkmeister")))) x ((Enroute x Maroon Caper) x Whole Cloth) x (Chapeau x (Sacred Mountain x aphylla "Werkmeister")))). #C63X16.\$20.00

MESCAL, TB, L, 40". A yellow plicata, S. light lemon yellow, paler in the center, F. warm white with a quarter-inch rim of lemon yellow and medium yellow plicata veins and dots at the haft, style arms bright yellow, beard yellow. Large blooms are well ruffled and lightly laced. Sturdy well branched stalks carry eight buds. Fertile both ways. Fragrant. Parentage unk., but probably from Debutante Ball, Flaming Light, and TB plicata seedlings. #YU17.\$30.00

PASSAGE, IB, L. 24". Classic ruffles and form in deep violet. Two or three branches, six buds. Fertile both ways and very fragrant. (Odyssey x Maroon Caper) X (Gentle Rain x (Odyssey x (Odyssey x Deborah Suzanne))). #C22Z18.\$20.00

PIONEER PINK, MTB, EM, 23". Extremely clean pale pink with pale yellow beards. Lightly ruffled, flaring, three branches on slender stalks, six buds, short foliage. Pod fertile, no pollen, light sweet fragrance. ((9N2: see ARRIVAL x Puppy Love) x (9N2 x Little Sunrise) X Hager AMT3795WPK: ((AMTPk x Audacious sib.) x Puppy Love). #C93Z2, EC 1995.\$20.00

VOLATILE, TB, M, 32". Vibrant light blue with medium blue haft marks to the end of a pale blue beard. Flaring and well ruffled blooms proportionate in size to the height of the plant and its foliage, three branches, seven buds. No pollen, untested as a pod parent. Fragrant. Bold Crystal X C103X1: (((Odyssey x (Stepping Out x Deborah Suzanne)) x 51S1: ((Odyssey x Shipshape x ((Rimfire x Cedarcrest) x (Lovely Letty x Pinwheel)))) x Patina)) x 51S1). #C37Z19.\$30.00

JIM & VICKI CRAIG, 16325 SW 113th Ave., Tigard, OR 97224

Price list available for a 32 cent stamp. If ordering, include \$3.00 for shipping;
Foreign customers add \$15.00 for permits.

D & J GARDENS

Duane & Joyce Meek

7872 Howell Prairie Road, NE

Silverton, OR 97381-9638

(503) 873-7603

1996 INTRODUCTIONS

- CHANCE ENCOUNTER** (D. Meek) TB, M, 34". Closed standards with wide mulberry-rose plicata border, ivory white at midrib; ivory falls with wide rim of dotted mulberry lines that continue across the haft and beard area, finished off with a minute ivory outer fall rim. Bright red-orange beards, white at end. Lovely ruffling, 3-4 branches, 7 buds. Lingering Love X Queen In Calico. (Sib to Brazen Beauty) #66-3-5.....**\$35.00**
- FABERGE** (D. Meek) TB, M-L, 35" Greyish-tan standards infused deep mauve at midrib; coral-bearded wide tan falls (hint of mauve upon opening) lighten to ivory with tan hafts, pleated and ruffled, 3-4 branches, 7 buds. Spring Tidings X Glory Be. #91-2-0.....**\$35.00**
- FAIRY AIRE** (J. Meek) TB, M-L, 29". Standards edged soft apricot, deeper pink at midrib; falls ivory, with tan shoulders, suggestion of an apricot fall rim, bushy melon beard, 4 branches, 7-8 buds. Tamara Anne X Paradise. #270-3-6.....**\$30.00**
- HIDDEN GLOW** (D. Meek) TB, E-M, 36". Blue white with subtle deeper color saturation in midribs and below white beards. Wide, lightly ruffled, nicely formed, 4 branches, 7 buds. Laced Cotton X Breakers. #05-1-8.**\$35.00**
- O'BRIEN'S CHOICE** (J. Meek) TB, M, 38". Nicely formed greenish-yellow with small ivory area; beards bronze, 4 branches, 7-9 buds. P. T. Barnum X Brandy #86-5-1.....**\$35.00**
- OPAL BROWN** (D. Meek) TB, M, 35". Snowy white standards flushed apricot at midrib base; falls deep apricot with irregular white margins & lighter area below melon beard. Fringed white styles, exquisite form & ruffling, 3 branches, 7 buds. Magharee X Champagne Girl. Seedling #57-6-0.....**\$35.00**
- ORANGE SURPRISE** (D. Meek) TB, M-L, 32". Deep, bright orange self with slightly open standards, flaring falls. Deeper orange beards, fat and bushy. Nice ruffling, 4 branches + terminal, up to 9 buds. Fresno Flash X Marmalade. #70-5-2.....**\$35.00**

We hope you like our introductions. "O'BRIEN'S CHOICE" can be ordered from O'BRIEN'S IRIS GARDEN, 3223 CANFIELD ROAD, SEBASTOPOL, CA 95472. (We goofed & none of it was replanted here. May have some late in season. If ordering from this ad, please include \$4.50 for shipping & handling (\$5.00 east of the Mississippi). Send \$1.00 if you would like our catalog sent to you (deductible from your 1996 order). We look forward to seeing you in our garden in '96.

HAVE A WONDERFUL IRIS SEASON!

Duane & Joyce

Earthart Gardens

RR #1, Box 847, South Harpswell, ME 04079

Japanese Irises

Siberian Irises

Earthart Gardens was established in 1992 to introduce the Siberian and Japanese irises of Currier McEwen. Now, through an arrangement by Dr. McEwen with Mr. Mototeru Kamo, we are proud to be privileged to introduce in the United States the Japanese irises of Mr. Kamo and Toyokazu Ichie of Kamo Nurseries in Japan. These cultivars have been listed in Japan but are new in this country.

Kamo Nursery Introductions

Dewa Banri (Dewa Far Away) (Ichie 1989). Diploid, 3 falls, M. The dainty 5½" flowers literally cover the moderately tall clumps. Standards are soft reddish purple in contrast to falls of light violet-blue with dramatically dark veins and halos around rich yellow signals. 2 branches. Derived from cultivars in the famous historical collection in Nagai Ayame Park\$25.

Hekiun (Blue Cloud) (Ichie 1987). Diploid, 3 falls, M. Beautifully formed 6½" flowers with medium violet-blue standards and falls close to true medium blue enhanced by sharp white lines. The finest Japanese iris with white lines that I have seen. 2 branches. Mezame x Hekih\$30.

Sessyu (name of ancient painter) (Kamo 1979). Diploid, 3 falls, EM to LM and a continuing bloomer. The round semi-flaring flowers are held on moderately tall clumps. The white standards have purple edging and the white falls are beautifully brushed soft violet-blue. Parents unknown\$15.

McEwen Irises for 1996

Japanese Irises

This year we are introducing two flowers in the "approach to true pink" category, one tetraploid and one diploid.

Fourfold Pink: (T₆J90/48ER(1)) tetraploid, 3 falls, EM-L. The handsome 36" plants have two excellent branches. The 7" flowers have upright white standards and styles edged pink, and wide, flaring falls of soft, medium pink surrounding white centers. T₅88/11(11) X Pink Mystery\$35.

Variation in Pink: (J89/34) diploid, 3 falls, EM-L. Arching 7" flowers are carried on 30" well branched plants. The color is a soft, medium near-pink on day one, lightening distinctly by day three to give attractive variations in color in the total clump effect. Repeats modestly for long period of bloom. Miyoshino X Celestial Pink\$35.

Siberian Irises

Harpswell Snow: (T₈S84/54) tetraploid, EM-LM. Our recently introduced white Siberian irises have been creamy white. This one is a clear white. The strong, well branched, moderately tall plants carry 5½" flowers with wide flaring falls. The small greenish yellow signals are covered by the wide, feathered styles giving a pure white impression. From seedlings involving Variation in Blue, Marshmallow Frosting, Cambridge, Wing on Wing, Fourfold White and Pirouette\$35.

Joe Pye Weed's Garden
Marty Schafer and Jan Sacks
337 Acton Street Carlisle, MA 01741

1996 INTRODUCTIONS

CARELESS SALLY—SIBERIAN. Schafer/Sacks (Seedling No. S90-60-6), 26", M and RE. A palette of pastels—this iris is a blend of rose, blue and yellow. It is a large flower with very full, round and ruffled falls; pale, ruffled standards; and ornate, wide styles with large curls. The styles are held semi-upright which reveals the lovely yellow sunrise signals—enhancing the overall pastel effect. It is a strong grower with 3-4 buds per stalk and moderate repeat bloom. S87-10-1: (Mad Magenta x Percheron) X Sailor's Fancy\$30.00

LADY WALPOLE—SIBERIAN. Schafer/Sacks (Seedling No. S90-62-4), 32", E-M. Lady Walpole's Reel is a wonderful New England contra dance, full of vim, vigor and vitality—just like this iris. Vigor because it grows like mad, vitality because it has 2 branches and 6 buds and blooms from the beginning of the main Siberian season until the end. And vim because it is a lovely medium blue-violet near-amoena with diamond dusting and gentle ruffles. Lady Walpole has beautifully proportioned flowers with neat, full form and makes a terrific garden plant. (Lady Vanessa x Springs Brook) X (Springs Brook x ((Atoll x Ruffled Velvet) x Ruffled Velvet))\$30.00

Prices include postage

UPS 2nd Day Air add \$4.00 per order

Send for complete list and descriptions

Foreign orders require postage and phyto fee

Also new this year we will offer Siberians from
Tomas Tamberg and a new versicolor from James Waddick

IRIS GARDENS DOWN UNDER NEW ZEALAND TOUR

November 9–25, 1996

Visit major iris growers and gardens throughout New Zealand.
Attend NZ Iris Society National Convention. Enjoy scenic highlights.
 PRE-TOUR AUSTRALIAN EXTENSION AVAILABLE



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For information and brochure call: JAN COYLE 415 595 2090
 NZ Garden Tour Specialist
 CA# 1009524-40

1919 Chula Vista Drive, Belmont CA 94002

ED ROBERTS

3887 Ninevah Road

Frankfort, KY 40601

GLORIOUS REVIEW—TB 37" M. Big and Bold, S. lemon yellow, F. lemon at the haft, blending out to pale white, then a dark blue border. Yellow beards. Gypsy Woman X Condottiere Sdlg. B-94-2.....\$35.00

1995 . . . intro. SUSQUEHANNA, EASTER CLOUD . . . 25.00

Postage \$3.00

MESSICK GARDEN
200 Pine Creek Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94598



INTRODUCTIONS
by
Virginia Messick

ELECTRIC SHOCK (Messick '96) TB, 36", M87-37 (Olympiad x Cosmic Dance). Very ruffled white with broad deep wash of deep blue up the haft and down along midrib of falls. Finished off with dark blue beards. Difficult to describe, but could have been named Star Crossed, since from a distance, it does resemble a star. The dark blue on white falls form an unique star pattern. Very contrasty, nicely ruffled and fragrant.\$35.00

CONSPIRACY (Messick '96) TB, 36", M88-114 ((Hilow (Dunn) X (Ghio seedling x Samurai Warrior)). Ruffled bright red-brown with cerise overtones and faint violet shading. In other words, a blend of brilliant colors, but predominantly maroon-red. The haft is very clean and smooth with red-brown beards. Perhaps I conspired to develop this red iris with progeny of two talented friends. As a result, I happily found this in my seedling patch. *Conspiracy* fulfilled!! This unique blend has good substance, flower is broad, well-formed, fragrant and ruffled too.\$35.00

VOLTAGE ('93) Brilliant Orange. Queen of show '93, HM '95\$12.50

BONUS—Choose one: ANGELS IN FLIGHT, SWING AND SWAY, ART NOUVEAU, ALADDIN'S FLAME (SDB), CALLING CARD (IB).

USUAL GENEROUS EXTRAS. Shipping and Taxes included.

HAROLD L. STAHLY

8343 Manchester Dr.

Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Introductions for 1996:

EASY MOOD (Stahly '96) TB, M, 36". Light yellow standards, creamy white falls with pale yellow band, brown-violet plicata marking lightly placed on shoulders and around beards. The beards are bronze with a blue-violet base. Excellent ruffled form, excellent branching with 8-9 buds; vigorous. Sdlg. 89-4: Cuddles X Haversham.....30.00

NORTHERN MIST (Stahly '96) TB, M, 33". An "Emma Cook" color pattern, white with a narrow blue border on the falls blending smoothly into the white with no plicata marks; light yellow beards. Nicely formed, wide and ruffled, semi-flared, pristine beauty on well branched stalks. Moderate sweet fragrance. Sdlg. 91-40: Celestial Dream X Classic Treasure30.00

WESTLAND ROSE (Simon '96) TB, M, 38". Moderately deep violet toned rose self, overlaid smooth brown at hafts, bright tangerine beards. These beautifully formed, wide flowers, heavily ruffled and laced, are well placed on strong, well branched stalks. This will be the last introduction of Bill Simon seedlings. Parentage lost.30.00

M.A.D. IRIS GARDEN

Bob and Mary Dunn

4828 Jela Way

North Highlands, CA 95660

Phone (916) 482-0562

1996 Introductions

AVAILABLE (M. Dunn) Go Around X Fiction. Mid Season. Wide, ruffled, crisp white plicata. Lilac border on falls. Standards heavily marked lilac. Light beard tipped lilac. Great branching, many well-placed buds. 36 inches. M939X \$35.00

BRILLIANT DISPLAY (M. Dunn) LeFleur X Vision in Pink. Mid season. Ruffled bright yellow with lighter areas, deeper beard and haft area. Wide, with heavy substance and many flowers. 37 inches. M1015V \$35.00

CRANBERRY COOLER (B. Dunn) Early. Lustrous cranberry claret self, slight blue glow at tip of beard. Wide and ruffled with heavy substance, matching beard. High branched, but a knockout color. Skyship X involving Intuition, Cranberry Ice, Manuel, Pagan, and Royal Heritage. 37 inches. B1034-B \$35.00

ELIZABETH ANN THOMAS (R. Mullin) Early. Medium violet blue sib to Almost Camelot. White spray pattern around white beard. Beautiful form, good branching. Chosen by the family to honor a charming lady who lived to be 103 and was working in her irises when she was 101. Theater X Galore. 84-49Z \$35.00

FLASHY FANCY (M. Dunn) Mid season. Bright grape-plum fancy, light area at tip of grape-tipped beard. Grape beard with a deeper plum line around the beard and line at tip, like an eye-liner. Super, flashy form with good branching and bud count. Perfecta X Vibrations. M880-2 \$35.00

HIGH ENERGY (M. Dunn) Mid-season. Crisp, clean plicata with light yellow standards. Ivory falls with wide cinnamon edge to falls, no center stripe, tiny light edge around wide cinnamon border. Wide and ruffled with heavy substance. Freestyle X Hamblen 82-42B. M1062-E \$35.00

MIDNIGHT MADONNA (B. Dunn) Very early for a dark one. Deep, dark self, wide and very ruffled. Standards are glowing satin black. Falls are velvety black with ruffles and pleats, self beard. Heavy substance with great branching. (Star Master x Sea Wolf) X Mystic Warrior. B2011-4. \$35.00

MARTINI MIST (B. Dunn) Mid season. Gray, green, tan, and mauve blend. This is a forbidden type for those who like strange colors. Green area at beard edge, golden styles, texture veins, lots of buds. 38 inches. Bourbon X Evening Mist. B852-1 \$35.00

RUPAUL (M. Dunn) Late. A pastel beauty with champagne standards with a slight lilac cast. Falls are wide, ruffled, silvery lilac. Styles are lilac with tinge of gold. Tall and sturdy, showing off each flower to perfection. 37 inches. Mary D X Silver Flow \$35.00

WHO'S WHO (M. Dunn) Mid season. Crisp, frilly pink-pink self. Wide ruffled standards are a clear pink, falls are a deeper pink with ruffles and pleats. Pink styles. Beards are a deeper pinkish tone in throat. 36" Pink Belle X Amour. M1027-1 \$35.00

Please order from this ad. Add \$5.00 for shipping. California residents add the appropriate sales tax. Previous introductions are also available. Ask for price list of these. Shipping July through September 9.

Mid-America Garden



3409 N. Geraldine
Oklahoma City, OK
73112-2806

1996 INTRODUCTIONS of Paul Black

- FINE BLENDING TB, 35"**, Sdlg. 8837A - Medium yellow standards and fall edges. Pearl central fall overlaid violet. Bright yellow beards and bold ruffles.\$35.00
- LOOKOUT POINT TB, 35"**, Sdlg. 88134A - Buff pink standards and medium violet falls. Long violet horns protrude from the ends of bright orange beards. Opens easily.\$35.00
- MYSTERIOUS BALANCE TB, 38"**, Sdlg. 90U1 - Tall, well branched cream white with narrow blended fall edge of blue violet.\$35.00
- NO DOWN PAYMENT TB, 33"**, Sdlg. A61D - Elaborately laced warm pink standards and edge on buff falls. Warm pink beards. See catalog listing for details to obtain free plant.Free
- PASTEL RIBBONS TB, 33"**, Sdlg. A33A - Beautifully proportioned. Butter buff standards infused orchid up midribs. Orchid blend falls with red orange beards. Vigorous and well branched.\$35.00
- RUTH BLACK TB, 32"**, Sdlg. 8632AA - Lavishly laced medley of colors, indescribable on paper. Orchid violet standards blending to buff pink with edges laced in salmon buff. Shimmering, diamond dusted violet orchid blend falls with narrow salmon buff rim. Bright orange beards. Color picture in February 1996 Flower & Garden HC & EC.\$40.00
- TOM JOHNSON TB, 35"**, Sdlg. A68A - Super branched and budded. Dark purple standards sit atop purple black falls edged slightly lighter. Startling red orange beards. A must have! HC & EC\$40.00
- SHE DEVIL ABM, 14"**, Sdlg. 85348A - Sooty, velvety garnet red. Black accents around old gold beards. Recurved falls.\$15.00
- EMBLAZONED IB, 16"**, Sdlg. A115B - Butter yellow standards marked with heavy brown plic band and rib. Bright yellow falls with brown plic border and heavy brown plic haft.\$15.00
- POUR IT ON IB, 26"**, Sdlg. A114XX - Orchid pink standards washed and plic marked red purple overall. Silvery orchid falls with wide, dark red purple plic band. Super branched and budded.\$20.00
- EARLGLO SDB, 12"**, Sdlg. 89229A - Pale chartreuse to white blended standards and falls with lime green veined spot in falls.\$12.00
- OLIVE GARDEN SDB, 13"**, Sdlg. A501A - Lime green standards and edge around olive lime falls. Gold over violet beards.\$12.00
- PIGGY BANK SDB, 14"**, Sdlg. 91312A - Coral pink standards. Falls are the same with a violet overlay that makes it appear even pinker. Pinkish red beards.\$12.00
- STATIC SDB, 14"**, Sdlg. 91306B - Pale pink ground with both standards and falls plic banded in violet. Flower a bit large.\$12.00

See INTRODUCTION SPECIALS in Spring catalog available for \$3.00.

Catalog also contains listings of daylilies, hostas, and Asiatic lilies.



MILLER'S MANOR GARDENS

Lynda & Roger Miller 3167 E. U.S. 224

Ossian, IN 46777

Phone & Fax: 219-597-7403

1996 INTRODUCTIONS

- BLINK** (Miller) MDB, 5.5", ML. Pert cream yellow standards sit on top of russet brown flaring falls edged medium yellow. Pale blue beards stand out on the russet brown spots. Style arms are cream with light blue veins. 191CA: (Bee Early X 384) V (Copper Chief X Unknown).....10.00
- SNIPS** (Miller) MDB, 4.5-5", E. This pure pumila bloomed for 3 weeks last year in our cool spring. Deep red red-violet blossoms have deep ruby red spots highlighted by pale baby blue beards. Vigorous. 192: (684 X Copper Chief) X Copper Chief10.00
- CINNAMON SPLASH** (Miller) SDB, 11", EM. Beautifully domed golden standards are slightly dotted green, oval ruffled golden falls are heavily stitched and marked cinnamon. The light blue beards are tipped orange. 3 buds. 592: Toasty X (Smidget X Baja)12.50
- SWEET THING** (Miller) SDB, 14", M. Round and ruffled, standards have a cream ground with light plum plicata markings edged with 3/16" golden tan edge. Falls are white with an orchid plicata border edged by 1/8" golden tan band. Baby blue beards. 3 buds. 2191: (Smidget X Sniffs 'N' Sneezes) X Chubby Cheeks12.50
- MINI WABASH** (R. Probst) MTB, 22", ML. Abundance of petite blossoms on outstanding branching caught many people's attention at the 1995 convention. Standards of pure white set atop dark violet blue falls that lighten at the rim. White peeks through the purple around the yellow beard. 89PQX370P2: Pretty Quirky X Ornate Pageant17.50
- STIPPLED LADY** (Norrick) MTB, 18", M. Well formed white peppered with purple specks that are more prominent on the falls at the hafts. Voted best seedling of show more than once. 91-2: White Canary X Jubie17.50
- CAJUN QUEEN** (Miller) TB, 33", L. This is a truly different variegata, standards are light caramel gold with red-violet midribs. Style arms are golden caramel with violet accents. Flaring ruffled falls are brick red with a rose violet center wash topped off by old gold beards. 7-8 buds. 5291A: ((Spartan X Unknown) X Lady Friend) X Graduation35.00
- FLAMBOYANT DANCE** (Miller) TB, 32", ML. Flashy form and markings make this iris a standout. White standards have narrow light tan stitched edges. While the wide falls are full plum with a center dotted and sprayed white around orange beards. 3386B: (Odyssey X Petite Posey) X Laced Cotton35.00
- HONEY HUSH** (M. Davis) TB, 34", M. Wonderfully ruffled and slightly laced, standards are medium yellow, falls are white with deep yellow hafts and edges of cream yellow. White tipped yellow beards are accented by long large white flounces. 87-096-2: Be Mine X Howdy Do35.00
- PROPER LADY** (Miller) TB, 34", ML. Unique in her coloring, standards are pale creamy peach with deeper edges. Style arms are cream with pale orange edges. The light orange falls are accented by tangerine beards with a base of cream. 6187A: (Odyssey X Roundup) X Wedding Candles35.00

Add \$3.00 handling when ordering from this ad, Visa & MC accepted.

Send \$1.00 (deductible from first order) for descriptive catalog.

MISTY HILL FARMS MOONSHINE GARDENS

Jack & Phyllis Dickey

1996 Introductions

GRAND STYLE (Byers by Dickey '96) (sdlg. G59-5) Tall bearded, 29", M., Space Ager. (Everything Plus x Egyptian). A beautiful space age with white ground purple plicata! The standards are medium dark purple with white veining. The falls are a snowy white ground with medium dark purple edging, dotting and median line. The beards are mustard ending with large dark purple horns. It truly is very GRAND STYLE!\$35.00

KING OF ANGELS (Byers by Dickey '96) (sdlg. F41-2) Tall bearded, 40", M., Space Ager. (D177-1 (Song of Norway x Pronghorn) x Titan's Glory). This is a beautiful crystalline white Space Ager with yellow beards ending in long white shaggy horns and flounces. This is a very vigorous, very tall (40") flower and it was voted "KING" in our garden by our visitors last year\$35.00

MISS LEMON (P. Dickey '96) (sdlg. PD 44-1) Tall bearded, 35", M-L. (Playgirl x Dusky Challenger). Standards are soft lemon yellow; Falls are soft lemon yellow, washed white with a darker yellow edging and yellow beards. Miss Lemon has a slight sweet, citrus fragrance. This very large beautiful iris is a vigorous grower\$35.00

SHADOWMAN (Byers by Dickey '96) (sdlg. F42-1) Tall bearded, 30", M., Space Ager. (D191-1 (Villain x B25-4) x Titan's Glory). The flower has dark blue purple standards and slightly darker velvet purple falls. The beard and fuzzy horns are a deep purple. This is a stunning Space Ager that will stand out in every garden\$35.00

SURREAL (Byers by Dickey '96) (sdlg. G59-2) Tall bearded, 29", M., Space Ager. (Everything Plus x Egyptian). The standards are golden yellow, veined and dotted purple. The falls are white ground plicata with stitched edge and hafts of purple. The golden brown beard ends with a dark purple horn. This is a very different sibling to Grand Style!\$35.00

We welcome visitors to our garden during bloom, about mid-April through mid-May, call for dates and times. (707) 433-8408.

Catalog is available for \$2.00, deductible from first order.

P.O. Box 1521, Healdsburg, Calif. 95448

OHIO GARDENS

W. Terry Varner
1995 INTRODUCTION

CYBER NET (Varner, R. '95) Sdlg. V-396-DG. MTB 19" (48 cm). ML. Cream ground flower with light to medium purple patches throughout the flower. Style arms are cream, edged light purple. White beards. Fertile both ways. 10-12 buds. Here's Lucy X Guild 91-DG-58: (Flashy Flirt x Kaitlin)\$15.00

Add \$4.00 postage and handling. MTB, BB and Bearded Species
Specialty Catalog—\$1.00

OHIO GARDENS

102 Laramie Road

Marietta, Ohio 45750-2533

Rainbow's End Garden

Crimson Tiger (G. L. Richardson '96) Sdlg. 88-2-1, TB, 30", M. Buff-gold, boldly splashed and streaked deep red and magenta, gold beards—a darker and more sultry version of its reverse sib, Infernal Fire. EC, HC, 1994, Broadway X 77-56-1: (74-31-6: ((Celestial Snow x Blushing Beauty) x Campus Flirt) x 74-73-1: ((San Leandro x Mulberry Rose) x Mulberry Rose)\$25.00

Evelyn Rose (G. L. Richardson '96) Sdlg. 83-15-1, BB, 27", M. Pastel lemon yellow with the standards infused with a delicate pink blush, soft apricot hafts, tangerine beards. Old Flame X Paradise.....\$20.00

Please add \$3.00 per order for shipping. Price list available for previous introductions.

G. L. Richardson, 1109 Pine Street, Richland, WA 99352, Tel. (509) 943-9547

SECTION CONVENTIONS

April 30-May 1, '96 MEDIAN IRIS SOCIETY Portland, OR

June 13-15, '96 SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES St. Louis, MO

June 13-15, '96 SPECIES AND SIBERIANS by
Iris Society of Massachusetts



Don & Bobbie Shepard
3342 W. Orangewood
Phoenix, AZ 85051
Ph (602) 841-1231

1996 INTRODUCTIONS

****TALL BEARDED & LOUISIANA By Don Shepard****

APRICOT FIZZ (TB-40"-E/M) Dessert without the calories! The bold apricot stands are domed & fluted. A large whip cream center on fall is surrounded by soft apricot with darker veins at shoulder area. Fluffy golden beards\$25.00

CURLY BLUE (TB-42"-EM) Very laced and frilly sky blue self. Good branching, 8 to 10 buds, always a show stalk. White beards\$25.00

MARSHMALLOW DREAM (TB-35"-EML) Ruffled white self with lavender blush. Gold beards. 8 to 10 buds, good branching, long bloom span.\$25.00

ARIZONA BIG RED (LA-38"-ML) LARGE combination of soft ruby and dark ruby red accented with rich yellow signals. Branching reveals four double bud placements opening out from the stalk perfectly\$25.00

NAVAJO CORAL (LA-36"/40"-ML) A beautiful coral pink. The stands are a sandy coral deepening into the falls. Small gold yellow signals blend into the bright yellow stylearms. Good branching, bud placement, 8 buds\$25.00

****SPURIA by Charles Jenkins & Floyd Wickenkamp****

CALIZONA (SPU-37"-VE) Light violet with large bright yellow signal and bright yellow heavy in the stands and stylearms \$25.00

COLOR SORCERY (SPU-13/50"-EM) Stands are deep purple. Falls are dark purple with yellow veins radiating from a yellow signal\$25.00

LAVENDER WAVES (SPU-38"-M) Ruffled and wavy light lavender with a prominent yellow signal. GREAT! LARGE!\$25.00

MEGAGOLD (SPU-39/45"-M) Beautiful large and ruffled bright golden yellow self. Petals all very wide. Very showy!\$25.00

SONORAN CARNIVAL (Wickenkamp) (SPU-40"-L) Upright violet stands have yellow on the inside midrib. Wide falls have a gold signal veined violet & rimmed with solid violet\$25.00

****Detailed Catalog on request for two 1st class stamps****

Spanish Fork Iris Gardens

of Darlene Pinegar

40 South 200 West

Spanish Fork, UT 84660

1996 Introductions

ALLISON ELIZABETH (BB) 26" M-ML. Yummy color! Opens dark lavender, that lightens some. Rosy orchid hafts, with darker rosy orchid marks. Lighter near coral orange beard. Heavily ruffled & lightly laced. 7-9 buds. Has pollen; fertility not tested. Sdlg. VF-1-2-2D. (VICTORIA FALLS X CLOUD FIRE) X (GYPSY RINGS X MOON MISTRESS) Sib to ANGEL'S BLUSH.....\$30.00

COLOR ME PINK (TB) 34" M-ML. Hot color! Sometimes more coral, sometimes peach. S. & styles, deep pink. F. peach/pink; white area below dark coral beard. Light ruffles & lace. Up to 11 buds. First runner-up to most popular seedling at Region 12 show in 1994. Has pollen; not tested. Some split stalks. Sdlg. PNS-2-1-1A. (EARLIROSE X QUEEN IN CALICO) X (EARLIROSE X RANCHO ROSE).....\$35.00

FUNNY VALENTINE (TB) 35" EM-L. Who says pinks can't be good? Lovely color, good stalks, etc., this has it all! Luscious light pink with apricot styles & hafts. Deeper pink veining. Creamy white below coral orange beard. Light ruffles. Medium sweet scent. Fertile both ways. Up to 9 buds. Sdlg. LT-1-6. (LEMON MIST X MOON MISTRESS)\$35.00

HAWAIIAN MOONLIGHT (TB) 36" M-L. Cream buds open to GORGEOUS, very heavily laced & ruffled white flowers. Yellow shoulders & deep yellow beards tipped white. So heavily ruffled & fluted, cream underside shows. Large, flaring flowers. 7-10 buds. Sdlg. TS-3-2. (TIMPANOGOS SNOWS X SPECULATOR)\$35.00

KOREAN CUTIE (TB) 31" ML. Smaller flowers (5" wide x 4" high), but so pretty! White S. & styles. Style arms narrowly edged yellow. F. are lavender/blue with yellow/gold hafts & edges. White area around wide, thick, dark coral beards. 6-9 buds & light ruffles finish this Cutie. Sdlg. FT-2-5. (FANCY TALES x SPICED CUSTARD)\$35.00

SARA'S BEAUTY (TB) 31" EM-L. Beautiful white ground plicata. S. have medium violet 1/2" stitched edge, sanding & dotting. Violet style arms. Diamond dusted F. have almost 1/2" stitched edge & dotting. Heavily ruffled. Burnt orange beards, tipped lavender. Medium sweet scent. Pod fertile; pollen not tested. 7-9 buds. Sdlg. EF-1-1. (EAGLE'S FLIGHT X DAREDEVIL)\$35.00

TANNER (TB) 36" M-ML. Colors of the desert our grandson Tanner lives in. S. & style arms deep, bright yellow. Double banded F. are white ground blending to cream, with inner band of stitched brownish red purple, & outer band of 1/4" gold. Dark yellow orange beard. Heavily ruffled. VERY FRAGRANT! 6-8 buds. Fertile both ways. Tied for 2nd place of 86 TB plants in '95 at Loomis Trial Gardens. Sdlg. SW-5-4. (SPINNING WHEEL X BROADWAY).....\$35.00

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1996 INTRODUCTIONS FROM ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES

- Alabaster Unicorn (Sutton 96) TB SA M-L 36". A large pristine bubble ruffled, white. Yellow beards ending with short white horns. Nicely branched.....\$35.00
- Asteroid Zone (Sutton 96) TB SA M 35". Bright yellow with white zone around gold beards. Yellow and white fuzzy upward curled horns. Ruffled and lightly laced.\$35.00
- Bugle Boy Blues (Sutton 96) TB SA M 37". Much like its parent, Honky Tonk Blues, with sky blue spoons. E.C. 92 A mottled French blue. Ruffled.....\$35.00
- Caution Sign (Sutton 96) SDB E-M-RE 11". Reblooms 4 to 5 times for us. S. pale yellow; F. yellow-gold and red brown; yellow-gold beards. Tailored.\$10.00
- Chaste Pearl (Sutton 96) B.B. M-L 26". Ruffled crystalline pinkish white with coral beards. Great substance.\$25.00
- China Pink (Sutton 96) TB M-L 37". S. Coral pink edged lighter; F. coral pink, hafts and edges lighter, coral beards; ruffled. S.A. background.\$35.00
- Clara Garland (Cy Bartlett 96) IB E 23". A very nice bright yellow with brown eyelashes. A stand out. A.G.M. Wisley 1995.....\$15.00
- Cloudia (Sutton 96) TB SA E-M 39". In honor of Cloudia Owens, a long time supporter of Region 14. A lovely ruffled, lightly laced lavender pink self. Tangerine beards with lavender-purple appendages.\$35.00

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Princess Blue Eyes (Sutton 96) SDB M-RE 10". S. & style arms canary yellow; F. yellow faint greenish thumbprint; beards bright blue violet. A ruffled cutie. Late rebloom.	\$12.00
Phillip Rowe (Cy Bartlett 96) TB E-L 34". From England comes this nicely ruffled lemon yellow. Cream beards. Received ST at Wisley in 1990. Cy's best yellow yet!	\$35.00
Pink Lenox (Sutton 96) TB M 38". Porcelain white infused lavender pink. Amethyst beards, ruffled.	\$35.00
River Avon (Sutton 96) TB E-M-L 39". Last year every stalk was a show stalk. Ruffled light blue self with butterfly blue beards.	\$35.00
Son and Sno (Sutton 96) SDB E-M 11". S. Yellow edged white; F. pale yellow; beards white tipped gold. Ruffled.	\$10.00
Straight Burgundy (Cy Bartlett 96) IB E-M 23". An elegant, tailored, deep purple-black out of Black Flag. Nicely branched.	\$15.00

◆ ◆ INTRODUCING FOR 1996 ◆ ◆

MARIPOSA SKIES (Tasco '96)--TB, 33", EM & RE. Pale blue standards, blue-violet flush at base; medium blue-violet falls with slightly lighter edge; white beards. Reblooms here in late October; in Southern California trials, was in bloom 7 months out of the year! EC '94; Sdlg # 89-05-02-RE [87-17: (Wedding Vow x Violet Miracle) X Glistening Icicle]..... **\$ 35.00**

SHAKEDOWN (Duncan '96)--TB, 33", EM. Lightly ruffled golden yellow, falls widely banded burgundy red with burgundy center stripe; gold beards. Sdlg # O-B-2. Parentage lost..... **\$ 30.00**

SONORAN SANDS (Tasco '96)--IB, 24", M. Lightly ruffled golden yellow standards; lighter yellow falls, rusty brown sanded wash heaviest on shoulders and near orange beards, lighter sanding on lower fall. Sdlg # 91-10-07 (Panocha X Sam)..... **\$ 15.00**

SKYRAY (Tasco '96)--SDB, 14", M. Light lavender blue standards, white falls, stippled and heavily lined darker lavender blue; light lavender blue styles; white beards, tangerine red in throat. Sdlg # 91-65-04 (Nimble Toes X Hanky)..... **\$ 12.50**

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**PURSuing
TOMORROW
TODAY**

Kathie and I wish to thank all the AIS members and judges who made our second year extremely rewarding. Your enthusiastic response to our distinctive line of iris has "tickled us B.B. pink"! Our first presentation, given to the Wichita Area Iris Club, was one of the year's highlights.

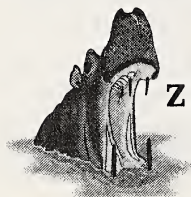
Last year's sales were so good, and we were so naive, we ended up dipping into the replanting stock to fill the August orders. When we started shipping in early July we tended to be very generous with bonuses because we "thought" we had extra iris. However, the orders kept coming and before we knew it, many iris were in short supply. We actually ended up selling more iris after shipping started than before! Thus this year, we'll only have a limited supply of some of our previous introductions.



**If you've been stalking any of our "wild life",
please order early so you won't be disappointed !**

This year we're adding introductions from two of Utah's more experienced hybridizers: Don Nebeker and Hyrum Ames. Don started hybridizing in 1949 and introduced several cultivars in the early 60s before a job change interrupted his hybridizing. He resumed his labor of love upon returning to Salt Lake and has produced many excellent seedlings. Hyrum started hybridizing in 1962 and is working on producing a laced black. WALKARA is a product of this effort. Previously, he's introduced several nice iris including the award winning SEMPER FI.

We're stepping off "the deep end" this year and adding a color cover to our catalog. Hopefully this is a good idea even though we have a crummy photographer (Brad). (\$2.00 donations for our photographer's education fund gratefully accepted.)



ZZZ ALERT!

Kathie has had another "cute" attack! Starting this year we'll be substituting Zs for some Ss.

1996'Z "GNU" INTRODUCTIONS

BLACK FALLS (*Nebeker '96*) TB M 38" Black-black falls! No hint of red or blue on gently ruffled, semi-flaring black falls. Dark blue violet standards and style arms. Dark violet beards/hairs tipped saffron yellow. Nicely branched with 7+ buds. Black doesn't fade, burn, or water spot!

Blackout X Sdlg 1076-10 (1135-17).....\$35.00

ELAINEALOPE (*Kasperek '96*) TB EM 34" Modern & Hardy! Rebloom potential! Ruffled, light lavender ground self with many random splashes of reddish violet. Semi-flaring falls with antique gold beards tipped lavender. 6-7 buds on strong stalks. Has rebloomed heavily here in zone 5, but only once.

Maria Tormena X Master Touch (89B-38I).....\$35.00

GIRAFFE KNEEHIZ (*Kasperek '96*) TB EM 40" Indescribable! (But I'll try) Blended apricot and tan standards sometimes show muted splashing. Ruffled, orangish-red tan flaring falls with silver white streaking. Overall affect is one of flesh tones. Tan beards, show stalks & 7+ buds. EC in '95

Hot Streak X Tiger Honey (92B-51S).....\$35.00

GNUS FLASH (*Kasperek '96*) TB EM 40" Our First Bi-Color !!! Standards start out light-golden tan and lighten to gray with silver white streaking. Open standards display golden tan style arms atop flaring dark violet falls streaked silver white. Yellow beards tipped violet. Show stalks, 6-9 buds.

Glitz 'N Glitter X Tiger Honey (91B-3A).....\$35.00

GNUZ SPREAD (*Kasperek '96*) MDB M & RE 7" Zone 5 rebloomer! Creamy whipped butter standards. Falls have butter yellow spot with whipped butter edges. Light orange beards end in a white ridge which flattens and fades into the center of fall. 2-3 buds. (Perfect form, substance light, but durable)

Baby Boom X Footlights (92R-29S).....(Free with \$50. order)*.....\$10.00

HIPPO'Z TUTU (*Kasperek '96*) TB EM 32" Laced & Ruffled Plicata! Laced, rich wine standards accented by light wine mid ribs, matching laced style arms. Wide, laced, semi-flaring falls have white background edged with 1/2" of rich wine, light wine center line. Burnt orange beards and 7 buds.

Baboon Bottom X Raspberry Fudge (92P-55V).....\$35.00

SPICED TIGER (*Kasperek '96*) TB EM 31" Dramatic! Ruffled and laced. Light brown sugar standards splashed silver white are golden yellow at the base. Flaring, deep mahogany falls streaked silver white have butter yellow shoulders overlaid mahogany. Golden brown beards, 6-7 buds, pronounced spicy fragrance.

Hot Streak X Tiger Honey (91B-7E).....\$35.00

WALKARA (*Ames '96*) TB M 30" Laced red! Lightly ruffled, moderately laced, red black self. Style arms have bronze mid rib. Maroon beards, hairs tipped bronze. Slight spicy fragrance. 7 buds.

Marauder X Queen of Spades (A8710).....\$35.00

ZANDRIA (*Nebeker '96*) TB M 38" Fire red beards! Clean rose pink standards. Rose pink style arms lightly accented violet purple on midrib. Flaring, ruffled violet purple falls with rose pink reticulations in throat extending into area around thick red beards. 8-9 buds. EC in '93.

Fancy Tales X Planned Treasure (1000-5).....\$35.00

TERMS: Postpaid quantity discount: 2 for \$60., 3 for \$80., 4 for \$100., 5+ \$20. ea. Catalog upon written request. (Answering machine "don't spell too good!")

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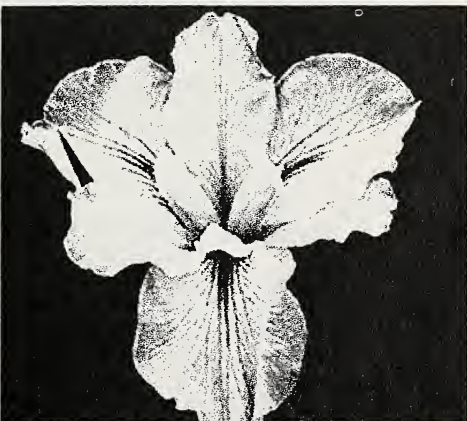
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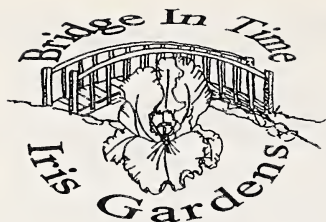
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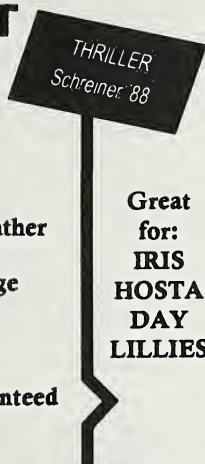
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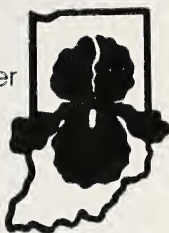
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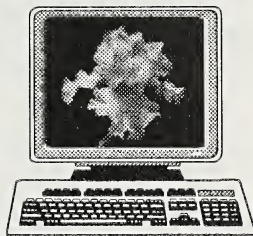
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Fatal Attraction

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Bulletin of the

July 1996

A M E R I C A N IRIS SOCIETY

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1/2 Arilbred, 34", early TB bloomtime
(Turkish Tracery x Welcome Reward)

Photo by Terry Aitken

This Arilbred has survived the test of time and demonstrated good "climate tolerance" by growing in the arid southwest and in the rainforested northwest. Arilbreds differ from other bearded types. Two or three buds per stem are considered typical. Falls curl under. Standards tend to expand through the life of the flower and are larger than the falls. Plants prefer well drained soil. Foliage is sparse and tends to go dormant during hot dry summers. The presence of weed retardants accelerates dormancy. Arilbreds add great diversity to the bearded iris garden.

Bulletin of the American Iris Society

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Series No. 302

July, 1996

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Insurance: Mike Lowe, 12219 Zilles Rd, Blackstone, VA 23824, (804) 265-8198
Judges & Judges' Training: Glenn Corlew, 2229 Ptarmigan Dr #4, Walnut Cr, CA 94595, (510) 932-1998
Library: Evelyn Jones, 5635 SW Boundary St, Portland, OR 97221
Membership Contest: Lynda Miller, 3167 E. US 224, Ossian, IN 46777, (219) 597-7403
Policy: Mike Lowe, 12219 Zilles Road, Blackstone, VA 23824, (804) 265-8198
Public Relations: Olive Rice-Waters, 1914 Napa Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94707, (510) 526-2853
Registrations: Keith Keppel, PO Box 18154, Salem, OR 97305, (503) 391-9241
 Send all registration applications, and \$7.50 payable to AIS, to Keith Keppel.
Robins: Libby Cross, 8907 Potts Creek Road, Covington, VA 24426, (540) 747-2123
RVP Counselor: Hal Stahly, 8343 Manchester Dr, Grand Blanc, MI 48439, (810) 694-7139
Scientific: Dr. Chandler Fulton, 21 Hillcrest Road, Weston, MA 02193.
Scholarship: Jean Witt, 16516 25TH NE, Seattle, WA 98155.
Section Liaison: Terry Aitken, 608 NW 119TH St, Vancouver, WA 98685, (360) 573-4472
Slides: Michael Moller, 3750 W. Arrowhead Rd, Littleton, CO 80123, (303) 797-8341
Youth: Jean Morris, 682 Huntley Heights, Ballwin MO, 63021, (314) 256-3927

AIS Sections: (1st line = Presidents, 2nd line = Memberships)

Median Iris Society:

Jim Morris, 682 Huntley Heights Drive, Ballwin, MO 63021;
Deborah Outcalt, R. 1, Box CW-20 Spencer, IN 47460

Society for Siberian Irises:

Robert Hollingworth, 124 Sherwood Road E, Williamston, MI 48895;
Howard Brookins, N 75 W14257 North Point Dr., Menomonee Falls, WI 53051-4325

Spuria Iris Society:

Tom Abrego, PO Box 693, Newberg, OR 97132;
Bobbie Shepard, 3342 West Orangewood, Phoenix, AZ 85051

Society for Japanese Irises:

John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave, Galesburg, MI 49053;
Robert Bauer, 9823 E. Michigan Ave, Galesburg, MI 49053

Reblooming Iris Society:

Rosalie Figge, 4 Maryland Ave, Towson, MD 21286-1100;
Charlie Brown, 3114 S. FM 131, Denison, TX 75020

Dwarf Iris Society:

Richard C. Sparling, 18016 Lafayette Dr., Olney, MD 20832;
Lynda Miller, 3167 E. US 224, Ossian, IN 46777

Society for Pacific Coast Native Irises:

Bob Ward, 54 Belmont Drive, Little Rock, AR 72204;
Adele Lawyer, 4333 Oak Hill Road, Oakland, CA 94605

Species Iris Group of North America (SIGNA):

Richard Kiyomoto, 486 Skiff St, North Haven, CT 06473
Colin Rigby, 18341 Paulson SW, Rochester, WA 98579

Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS):

Doug Goodnight, 1005 Gamblin Ln., Hobbs, NM 88240;
Ada Godfrey, 9 Bradford St, Foxborough, MA 01035

Cooperating Societies:

Aril Society International:

Tom Tadfor Little, 3262-B Walnut St, Los Alamos, NM 87544-2060;
Barbara Figge, 6805 Kentucky Ct. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110

Society for Louisiana Irises:

Perry Dyer, Box 534, Blanchard, OK 73010,
Elaine Bourque, 1812 Broussard Rd. E, Lafayette, LA 70508

Section Membership Rates:

	single annual	single triennial	family annual	family triennial
Median Iris Society	\$5.50	15.00	8.00	22.50
Society for Siberian Iris	5.00	13.00	6.00	15.00
Spuria Iris Society	6.00	15.00	8.00	18.00
Society for Japanese Iris	3.50	9.00	4.00	10.50
Reblooming Iris Society	5.00	13.00	6.00	15.00
Society for PCNs	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Species Iris Group	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Dwarf Iris Society	3.00	8.00	4.50	12.00
Historic Iris Preservation Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	15.00
Aril Society International	10.00	28.00	—	—
Society for Louisiana Irises	7.50	18.00	9.00	22.50

Regions & Regional Vice Presidents

1: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island:

Dr. Warren C. Hazelton, PO Box 191, Norway, ME 04268, (207) 743-5661

2: New York:

Kathleen Guest, 494 North Street, East Aurora, NY 14052, (716) 655-1762

3: Pennsylvania and Delaware:

Bettie Nutter, 308 Greenfield Drive, Bridgeville, PA 15017, (412) 941-5038

4: Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, and North Carolina:

Anne Lowe, 12219 Zilles Rd., Blackstone, VA 23824, (804) 265-8198

5: South Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Puerto Rico:

Marshall L. Goforth, 837 S. Green River Rd, Gaffney, SC 29341, (803) 487-4082

6: Ohio, Indiana and Michigan:

Emma C. Hobbs, 3303 Westfield Road, Noblesville, IN 46060, (317) 896-2800

7: Tennessee and Kentucky:

Jerry Gifford, 5647 Myrtlewood Drive, Nashville, TN 37211, (615) 834-0401

8: Minnesota and Wisconsin:

Mrs. Mickey Giefer, Route 2, Box 100, Nicollet, MN 56074, (507) 225-3336

9: Illinois:

George S. Poole, 775 Kaid Road, Eldorado, IL 62930, (618) 273-5992

10: Louisiana:

Mrs. Hubert Rena, 4313 Lake Villa Drive, Metairie, LA 70002, (504) 885-4442

11: Idaho, Montana and Wyoming:

Oz Reyna, 715 Central Canyon, Nampa, ID 83651, (208) 466-9133

12: Utah:

Mrs. Cathy Hagan Reed, 1584 Meadow Moor Rd., Holladay, UT 84117, (801) 272-7992

13: Washington, Oregon and Alaska:

Marky D. Smith, 1014 Crest Acres Pl., Yakima, WA 98908, (509) 965-1005

14: Northern California, Nevada and Hawaii:

George Sutton, 16592 Road 208, Porterville, CA 93257, (209) 784-9011

15: Southern California and Arizona:

Bill Rinehart, 22218 Schoenborn St., West Hills, CA 91304, (818) 346-1912

16: Canada:

Catherine Boyko, Route 9, Bains Rd, Dunnville, Ont. N1A2W8, Canada, (905) 774-8360

17: Texas:

Mrs. David Lamb, 714 Pebble Creek Drive, Garland, TX 75040, (214) 495-5645

18: Kansas and Missouri:

Mike Hargrove, 1818 Cramer, Wichita, KS 67212, (316) 722-4316

19: New Jersey and Staten Island:

Joseph John Griner, 25 Mill Chase Rd, Southampton, NJ 08088-9640, (609) 859-9251

20: Colorado:

Glenna Chapman, 588 Coronado Drive, Sedalia, CO 80135, (303) 660-9473

21: Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and North Dakota:

Calvin Reuter, 2317 3RD Rd., Wisner, NE 68791, (402) 529-6860

22: Arkansas and Oklahoma:

Ronald Mullin, Route 3, Box 84, Pawnee, OK 74058, (918) 762-2430

23: New Mexico:

Karen Bergamo, 2508 Punta de Vista, NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112, (505) 299-5198

24: Alabama and Mississippi:

James G. Burch, 205 Knox Drive, Huntsville, AL 35811, (205) 852-6026

AIS Bulletin

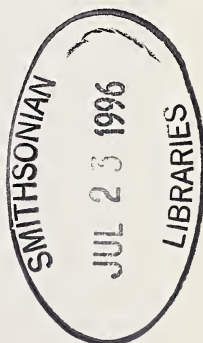
Table of Contents

Regular Features:

Page 2	Officers & Committee Chairpeople
Page 3	AIS Sections
Page 4	Regions & Regional Vice Presidents
Page 6	President's Message
Page 8	Editor's Message
Page 10	Youth Views
Page 16	Flight Lines
Page 71	Contributions
Page 83	AIS Slides For Rent
Page 84	Official AIS Storefront
Page 86	Index of Advertisers
Page 88	Shopping Section

Articles:

Page 14	Robin Roster
Page 18	New Contact for AIS Insurance
Page 19	Request for Beardless Guest Iris
Page 20	AIS Library
Page 22	The Rare Iris of Russia
Page 29	Genetic Engineering of Iris
Page 32	Culture Corner
Page 34	International News
Page 38	The New Regional Vice Presidents
Page 40	Contemporary Views
Page 68	New Iris Book Planned
Page 69	Dr. Loomis Awards
Page 74	Official AIS Affiliates
Page 82	Request for Japanese Guest Iris
Page 86	Convention Award Winners
Page 87	New Advertising Rates



Front & Back Cover Photos (by Robert Plank): Sherman-Yee garden in the foothills of Altadena, California, taken during the Region 15 Trek in 1994. Pictured on front cover are George and Kay Sherman-Yee, with their children Claire and Paul.

President's Message

by Dave Niswonger

AT THIS WRITING, THE AIS CONVENTION IN Sacramento has not happened yet. I know from all the advance planning and the hard work that has been expended in preparation for it that it will be a great Convention. The Median Fix in Portland, the Japanese Iris meeting in St. Louis, the Species and Siberian meeting in Westford, MA has not happened yet either. Say! What a great time we are going to have this summer!

From the interim reports from Evelyn Jones, Chairperson of the Library Committee, I know that many hours have already been invested in organizing the AIS Library. The Committee has had fine cooperation from the City of Silverton and I'm appreciative of that.

As I indicated in the April Bulletin, a lot of exciting things are happening Internationally. This issue will give you another glimpse of what is possible with the Rare Iris Study Center as you read Dr. Rodionenko's article on the Rare Iris Species of Russia. Dr. Rodionenko has already made two shipments of rare iris species seed to the U.S. and more is planned to be shipped after this growing season. It will be necessary to find growers in both private and public gardens in the various climates more suitable for some of these rare species who will be willing to maintain these rare plants with tender loving care. Anyone willing to do this should contact Dr. James W. Waddick, 8871 N.W. Brostrom, Kansas City, MO 64152. Dr. Rodionenko tells me that student botanists in Russia and surrounding regions have no money to purchase books, journals, catalogs, or to finance expeditions in search of these rare species (which they would love to do). For example, Lu Enthuya, botanist with the Institute of Botany at Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia would like to collect a certain form of *I. laevigata* from Eastern Mongolia but she has no money for the expedition.




Dave Niswonger, AIS President

I was really intrigued at the Symposium in St. Louis when Dr. Rodionenko commented on the poisonous snakes that guard two rare species, *I. acutiloba* and *I. schelkownikowii*, on the two sand hills, Tumkurcola, west of the capital of Dagestan. I asked him what kind of snakes was he talking about. He replied that it is a special form of an adder, called a gursa (*Vebera liberina*). These snakes are very poisonous and are very aggressive. They reach a length of 150-180 centimeters (around six feet long). Of the ten *Oncocyclus* species that are present in the area, *I. schelkownikowii* is the only one with an aroma or fragrance. I have surmised that the fragrance may attract insects which in turn may attract the snake—or if not, perhaps would attract lizards that the snakes might like to eat. At any rate, who would want to sleep in those hills in a sleeping bag to collect those irises! There may be other ways to do it but again it would cost money. There is war going on now where some of these species exist but students from the areas might be interested. Here's another example: *I. timofejewii* was collected near a village, Tsudakchar, in Dagestan, but has been lost. A student-botanist from there could collect it again with some help. I've probably gone into too much detail but I think these opportunities are exciting.

Jean Witt's report in the April *Bulletin* on a new approach to Scholarships is refreshing. The New Mexico Iris Society has already donated \$3,000 to this project. Jim Waddick knows two botanists in China who are willing to make field expeditions and conduct studies. It's possible that \$2,000 of this money could be used to fund a study of Crested Irises in the field. I'm sure other Affiliates and Regions will want to assume some of the projects that Jean has mentioned in her article. I would think it would be quite gratifying to know that your Club or Region was responsible for a certain study to be made.

With all of the conventions going on this summer, I'm sure the want lists will be greater than usual. This will be a good time to evaluate your collections and in addition to those fantastic Tall Bearded, you might like to try some of the other types of irises. You may also want to share some of your goodies with friends.

Enjoy! Enjoy! 

Editor's Message

NEW EDITOR, NEW LOOK, NEW TECHNOLOGY

by Terry Aitken

SINCE SERVING AS GUEST EDITOR BACK IN 1987 FOR A SINGLE issue (July Bulletin) I have watched Ron Mullin produce a constant wealth of diverse information about our World of Iris. To follow in this tradition represents an inspiring challenge.

It is my hope that my background in architecture will allow me to contribute a graphic enhancement to materials presented in the Bulletin. There is a basic aesthetic sense that I believe all irisarians must have in order to pursue an in-depth knowledge of the genus iris. My responsibility will be to offer an open door to the artisans among us whom can express meaningful knowledge coupled with artistic inspiration.

All of this sounds wonderful, but I leave it to the next generation to put these words into the virtual reality of the computer age. I introduce you to my son Scott, a Seattle resident, highly successful Realtor, and owner of a graphic design company, with a university degree in Business Administration and Marketing. I shall leave it to him and fellow irisarians who are at home with the wonderful world of micro chips and CD ROMs! Welcome to the world of change! The technology for communications is changing so rapidly that the methods we used on the Anniversary Bulletin last year are not the same as the methods used for the July Bulletin this year. Some five years ago facsimile messaging became a useful tool for irisarians around the world. In 1996, e-mail is becoming the preferred method of communicating between computer users. Our Fax line is open 24 hours a day. E-mail messages can be sent to Scott in Seattle (zebra@chcs.com) and he can forward them by Fax to us in Vancouver.

Advancements in computer scanning now allow us to easily convert text from paper into a computer text file for editing with enormous time saving. (This requires a minimum of 24 pin dot matrix printouts for the scanner to identify letters and symbols.) For black and white

photos, we can scan any sharp image photo, color or black and white originals, onto computer. We are learning how to scan 35 mm color slides onto CD ROM disk for use in computer digital enhancement. This requires enormous quantities of computer memory, so we are being cautious with this technique. "Seeing is not believing" now that we have the capability to digitally alter photos; we can remove spent flowers, brush out leaf spot, remove labels and other unfortunate background or foreground items. However, to start with, we do need sharply focused images. There are limits to these "magical capabilities"!




Terry Aitken, AIS Bulletin Editor

In spite of rapidly changing technology, the heart of the Bulletin remains the subject matter. It is imperative that we cover the broadest spectrum of topics of interest to our world wide readership. Our iris culture ranges from the Arctic conditions of areas of Alaska and Canada to the tropic climates of Florida and Hawaii. Think global. I sense a growing diversity of iris interests which needs to be cultivated. It is essential that I draw on authors from all segments of our society. I don't have the answers. If you feel you can contribute to future Bulletin themes,

please do get in touch. Some future issues will cover variegations of flowers and foliage (October); pursuit of everblooming irises (January); organic gardening with irises, nematodes —beneficial and otherwise, fungus controls, novelty irises (April).

At the Board meeting last fall there was a substantial change in policy regarding use of photos in the Bulletin. Any iris photo that is relevant to the text may be now used, regardless of award status. My own additional criterion is to choose quality pictures of quality irises. (Quality can be discussed ad infinitum.)

This task is an enormous learning experience. Scott and I are trying all sorts of new tricks, so consider this issue as "transitional". We have no qualms about changing anything if there is a better answer. 

Youth Views

Awards Roundup

by Jean E. Morris

1996 Youth Achievement Award Winners

OUR CONGRATULATIONS TO FIFTEEN-YEAR-OLD **Kevin T. Gormley** of Cedar Hill, Missouri, winner of this year's Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement. Kevin and his family moved from Syracuse, New York, to Region 18 in 1991, bringing along several iris rhizomes for transplanting. In 1992, Kevin entered TODAY'S FASHION (Shoop '82) in an iris show at the Missouri Botanical Gardens, earning an Honorable Mention ribbon. The very next day, he joined the AIS and a local affiliate. Kevin added several more irises to his collection and in 1993, was awarded Best Youth rosette and Queen of Show with his excellent stalk of DAZZLING GOLD (D. Anderson '81). This event gave Kevin a large dose of encouragement and as a result, an enthusiastic young irisarian was launched.

Kevin began competing in six or seven area shows each year. He has earned many ribbons, rosettes and youth medals entering the horticultural, design and educational divisions. He has eagerly served as clerk several times and last year co-chaired a show.

He entered the AIS Judges Training Program in 1993 and attained the status of Apprentice Judge in 1995. Kevin attends regional meetings and last year took part in the International Symposium on Gardening with Iris Species. Here he added to his iris knowledge and met interesting people from around the world. Kevin is a member of the Median Iris Society and the Aril Society International because of his interest in these types of irises. He is a regular contributor to the AIS youth newsletter, *The Iris Fan*, writes to an iris Pen Pal, and enters the Ackerman Youth Essay Contest each year. Kevin recruits new members for the AIS and won the 1994 AIS Membership Contest plaque in the youth category.

Locally, Kevin now belongs to three AIS affiliates, the Jeffco Iris Society, the Greater St. Louis Iris Society and the Kirkwood Iris Society. He serves as the Vice-President and Program Chairman of the Kirkwood group and has chosen some unique and interesting programs for the club.



Jean E. Morris
Youth Committee Chairperson

Kevin grows over 600 iris varieties of many types. He tests seedlings for several hybridizers and sends detailed reports on their performance. His suggestion to Schreiner's Gardens that AIS youth members be allowed to participate in their seedling test program at no charge, was adopted in 1994 and 26 AIS youths enjoy participating to date. Kevin began hybridizing in 1993. He reports that the excess rains of 1995 made his planned crosses fail.

But some tree frogs which took refuge inside of his tall bearded irises caused several crosses to occur. He took photographs of these interlopers in action and wrote a letter to the SIGNA Scientific Committee about the "frog pollinators."

In 1994, Kevin became a Licensed Commercial Grower in the state of Missouri. He puts out a catalog, plans bed requirements and does his invoices and sales records on the family computer. He regularly consults with the state entomologist about garden pests and diseases as well as shipping regulations. His garden will be on regional tour in 1997.

Kevin's nominators describe him as enthusiastic, generous, dependable, mature, intelligent, helpful, persistent, a serious irisarian, a rising star in the iris world. Congratulations Kevin!

The First Runner-Up certificate this year goes to sixteen-year old **Erin Marie Griner** of Bordentown, New Jersey, Region 19. Erin grows an outstanding iris garden filled with many healthy clumps. Seeing her garden at peak bloom last year after the York Convention was a real pleasure. Erin began a hybridizing program

three years ago and also grows and evaluates seedlings, including those of the late Franklin Carr.

Erin competes with adults at iris shows and has been very successful, as she is a meticulous groomer. In 1992 she was thrilled to win Queen of Show with her beautiful specimen of MOON'S DELIGHT (Hager '92).

In 1993, Erin's essay was chosen the winner of the Ackerman Youth Essay Contest. She wrote about PONTIFF (Carr '84) her favorite tall bearded iris, which performs well for her both in the garden and on the show bench.

Erin joined the AIS Judges Training Program, finished her student hours, was appointed to Apprentice Judge in 1994, and has now completed all requirements for appointment as a Garden Judge. Erin attends Region 19 meetings and her own garden was on the Garden State Iris Society's regional tour in 1995.

For the past three years, Erin has served as Youth Chairman for Region 19. Although this is a position usually held by an adult, Erin is doing an outstanding job. She has worked very hard to build AIS youth membership, especially in the 4-H ranks. She has encouraged these young people to grow and show irises by furnishing them with her own excess rhizomes. She also shares planting instructions and grooming techniques.

Erin is described as hard working, responsible, patient, mature, delightful to know, and loyal to those who depend on her. Congratulations Erin!

Thirteen-year-old **Monica Combrink** of Glencoe, OK, Region 22, is this year's Second Runner-Up. Monica has been encouraged in her iris endeavors by her grandparents, Joe and Ann Barrows, and by the members of the North Central Iris Society.

She grows her own extensive garden of tall bearded, Siberians and Medians. She is also a tireless worker in her grandmother's garden and greenhouse, an effort much needed since the death of her grandfather two years ago. Monica enjoys dancing and decided to devote one of her large beds to irises with "dance names."

Monica is a hard worker at showtime, having served on the placement committee and as clerk on several occasions. She successfully enters in the horticulture, design and educational divisions and even set up a live action iris booth at the local fair

showing how to plant irises. She provided free rhizomes to those who wanted them. This resulted in one family joining the AIS.

Monica has attended Judges Training sessions, regional meetings, and in 1993 helped host a garden for the Median Spree. She wrote the winning essay for the Ackerman Youth Essay Contest in 1995 and used over half of the prize money to purchase new iris rhizomes. Her essay, "What is So Great About an Iris?" was beautifully organized, thought provoking and completely error-free.

Monica is described as helpful, dedicated, enthusiastic, creative, a joy to observe in action, a willing worker, one who really loves irises. Congratulations Monica!


As adult AIS members, some of us grow fine gardens, and some of us grow in our knowledge of the Genus iris. Others may just grow weary. But blessed are those who foster the love of irises in these and other AIS youth members. Your investment in the future will yield a great return.

AIS Membership Contest Winner

The 1995 AIS Membership Contest, Youth Category, has been won by **Danika King** of St. Clair, Missouri, Region 18. Many may remember Danika as she was last year's winner of the Clarke Cosgrove Award. Danika is very active in her local affiliate, the Washington Iris Club where she serves as the Youth Advisor to over a dozen AIS youth members. Danika was awarded a certificate and a beautiful plaque at the Sacramento Convention. Congratulations Danika!

We encourage all youths to participate in the 1996 AIS Membership Contest. Please refer to the April, 1996, *AIS Bulletin*, Page 83, for contest rules and point scales.

The Clarke Cosgrove Fund

It is possible for affiliates, regions and individual AIS members to add to the Clarke Cosgrove Fund by sending a notation along with their contribution to the AIS Secretary. The Youth Committee is grateful to those who contributed this past year as it makes a cash award possible for the 1996 Clarke Cosgrove Winner. 

Robin Roster

Round Robins Reorganized

by Libby Cross

HANKS TO ALL THE ROBIN DIRECTORS, DIVISION Directors, Section Presidents and RVPs who have answered my pleas for Robin information over the past six months, I believe most of the Robins, independent and otherwise, have been located, added to, and generally tidied up into some semblance of order.

A *Round Robin* is a small group of people who discuss a particular topic by mail. Each person adds their own thoughts, then sends it along with the other letters to the next person.

Here are the Divisions with active Robins, and the Directors who are handling them:

Arils: Sharon McAllister, 2979 Sundance Circle, Las Cruces, NM 88011

All E-Mail: Sharon McAllister, (see above), or

73372.1745@compuserve.com

Miniature Dwarf: Robert Pries, 6023 Antire Rd, Highbridge, MO 63049

H.I.P.S.: Ellie Weikle, PO Box 175, Shawsville, VA 24162

Hybridizing: Libby Cross, 8907 Potts Creek Rd., Covington, VA 24426

Iris in General: Libby Cross, 8907 Potts Creek Rd., Covington, VA 24426

Tall Bearded: Libby Cross, 8907 Potts Creek Rd., Covington, VA 24426

Japanese: Pat Brooks, 102 Jefferson Lane, Ladson, SC 29456

Louisianas: Pat Brooks, 102 Jefferson Lane, Ladson, SC 29456

Medians: Betty Wyss, 1413 S. Liberty, Independence MO 64055

Reblooming: Dudley Carson, PO Box 556, Willamina OR 97396

Siberians: Dale Hamblin, 152 N. Idlewild, Mundlein IL 60060

SIGNA: Pat Brooks, 102 Jefferson Lane, Ladson, SC 29456

Spurias: Laurie Cross, 5118 Orchard Drive, McHenry, IL 60050


I understand there is a *Space Age Robin* flying too, but that has not been confirmed at this writing. An *Arts and Crafts Robin*, a *Photography Robin*, and a *Fragrance Robin* are currently recruiting members. All AIS members are cordially invited to join a robin in any of the above divisions. If you are interested in the last four named divisions, or an *International Robin*, write or call me. The

phone is (540) 747-2123. For the other divisions, you may get in touch with the Director listed.

I want to put out one more call for any Robins that may have slipped through the cracks. If you are a Director of any robin that I have *not* been in correspondence with, please let me know!

If you are a member of a robin that is flying without a director, let me know.

If you are a Director who needs new members for your robin, let me know!

Again, many thanks to all who have helped me pull the robin program together. 

A Las Vegas Iris Weekend

Saturday, October 26, 1996

**Come join Region 14 for a Fall Regional
in fabulous Las Vegas.**

Sumptuous Buffet Lunch - with entertainment

Judges Training by Bill Maryott: "Tall Bearded Iris"

Speaker's program by Ray Schreiner:

"The Schreiner's Hybridizing Program"

Super deluxe rooms at low, low prices

Registration is \$39 if received before Sept 25

For Registration and room reservations forms, contact:

Howard Wald, Southern Nevada Iris Society

1316 Highland Court

Boulder City, NV 89005

(702) 294-5059

Flight Lines

EXCERPTS FROM THE DIS AROUND ROBINS

collected by Dana Glaser, *FlightLines* Editor

Reblooming Robin D-2 4/95

Terry Aitken, Vancouver, WA

"Last year I dug up a bunch of iris (RE) which had set seed pods in the fall and grew them into winter in the green house so that the pods could ripen. The seeds sat around in pots all last year—watered and in the greenhouse. *Now* they are germinating! I will be most pleased if some of these 'early birds' can bloom next fall! They are all (rebloomers x rebloomers)."

Raymond Smith, Bloomington, IN

"Important for rebloomers to have a good root system for health & rebloom... the taller the plant, the heavier the root system. Another quality a rebloomer needs is a wide healthy fan. TB's with as few as five green leaves per fan is insufficient to sustain rebloom."

Bernice Miller, Killen, AL

"The reason for the lack of vigor & vitality in some West Coast iris as compared to some East Coast iris goes back to the original wild iris crosses that gave us our modern tall bearded. First, the very hardy northern *Iris pallida* was crossed with the wild *Iris variegata* from the Balkan States. The results of this cross were crossed with the larger and tenderer semi-hardy *Iris mesopotamica*, *Iris cypriana*, *Iris kashminana*, and several others. Most of our reblooming crosses come from *Iris mesopotamica*."

Tall Bearded Robin #35

Dennis Pearson, Suffolk, VA

"I composted marsh reeds last year and added to my new beds as compost and humus, not really knowing what would happen since

they grow in saltwater. The results were excellent, the additional humus got me through the horrible weather. The beds held a tremendous amount of moisture and growth was excellent.”

Regina O. Janes, Lynchburg, VA

“Diseased plant refuse gets burned rather than spread to a landfill. I use the ashes for magnesium on iris and rose beds and fireplace ashes in the winter are spread around the beds, also.”

Shirley Trio, Modesto, CA

“Seems like everyone is starting to use alfalfa pellets. I have heard of some problems, so will try them on my Dykes bed only and will evaluate. Added some magnesium (Epsom Salts) to the soil this year. Had large rhizomes in the test plot, great stalks and had better increase than in other beds.”

Ann Bateman, Naperville, IL

“In this area the borer is a serious problem. I start spraying with Cygon 2E in a concentration of 2 tablespoons per gallon when new growth is 34 inches high and repeat 10 days later. I spray again 10 days apart in June and in July. If I see live borers after May, I up the concentration to 3 tablespoons. I am very careful using Cygon as it is a documented carcinogen. I wear clothing that completely covers me including gloves, face mask, glasses and a shower cap on my head! When finished, I strip in the shower. I have tried Orthene (not as deadly as Cygon) but it was not as effective on the borers.

***Reblooming Robin* #6, 5/95 – 12/95**

David Iwane, Seattle, WA

“Had a good season, lot of bloom on some plants that I’ve had for three years and never seen a bloom. These plants were driving me crazy they all grew vigorously forming beautiful healthy clumps, taking up very precious real estate and not blooming. I threatened them with expulsion if they didn’t bloom this year; guess threats really do work.

Dudley Carson, Willamina, OR

"Planting rebloomer seedlings in old depleted soil is no way to test their ability to rebloom. I do add amendments to the soil like steer manure, lime, peat moss and alfalfa pellets whenever I replant selected seedlings, or new cultivars that I've recently purchased. But, I am not convinced that these amendments are adequate for testing rebloom."


Gary Meli

"Is anyone familiar with iris *I. aphylla*? I've heard that some 'Blood' can intensify and darken colors in other lines. Will it grow in zone 7?"

Clarence Mahan, McLean, VA

"Lloyd's (Zurbrigg) CLARENCE is one of the most beautiful irises in my garden, and it has been a prolific and consistent rebloomer for me. CLARENCE may get an HM this year. Its Lloyd's masterpiece. I am proud that Lloyd would honor me by naming this beautiful iris CLARENCE... I just hope its name doesn't cost it votes. I strongly endorse using the various forms of *I. aphylla* in breeding to strive for rebloom. *I. aphylla* has wide branching and will pass it on to its children."

Estelle M. Trammell

"No bloom to report except for LUCKY DORIS. The courageous old gal is blooming her head off here in middle December!" 

New Contact for AIS Insurance

This is regarding liability insurance for AIS activities. See January Bulletin for complete information.

Ruth Anne Pattangall
Rodman Insurance Agency
75 Wells Avenue
Newton Center, MA 02159

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Oklahoma City '99

Request for Beardless Guest Iris

The Sooner State Iris Society will host the 1999 Convention of The American Iris Society. The Guest Iris Committee invites hybridizers to send guest rhizomes of recent introductions and seedlings of beardless irises under consideration for introduction. Please observe the following guidelines when sending guest irises:

1. Up to three rhizomes of each variety should be shipped.
2. The guest irises will be accepted from Sept. 15 – Oct 15, 1996.
3. All official guest irises must be shipped to:

Sooner State Iris Society
3228 NW 35th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73112

(Be sure to include the word "Street" in the above address.)

4. The name of the variety or seedling number should be clearly marked on each rhizome. In addition, the following information should be *clearly marked* for each plant on a *Separate Packing List*:
 - A. Hybridizer's name and address.
 - B. Name or seedling number of the variety.
 - C. Type of iris (SIB, SPU, LA);
 - D. Height, color, and bloom season (E, M, L)
 - E. Year of introduction (if introduced)
5. If a guest seedling is named, it will be the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the Guest Iris Chairman not later than December 1, 1998.
6. A receipt will be mailed to all contributors. Shortly before the convention, contributors will be asked for instructions regarding the distribution of the plants. Failure to reply by June 15, 1999, will be interpreted as permission to destroy all stock. All official guest plants which are to be returned will be shipped postpaid, except to foreign addresses.
7. The Convention Committee and the owners of tour gardens will follow the Code of Ethics as printed in the AIS Convention Handbook.
8. The Guest Iris Committee will not be responsible for losses beyond its control, and only irises received through the Guest Iris Chairman will be listed in the convention booklet.

AIS Library

by Evelyn Jones

WORK ON THE AIS LIBRARY HAS PROGRESSED to the point where I can make the initial report to the members of the AIS Board of Directors and the general membership. We are getting lots of good help, and are moving along well.

The materials for our library are housed in the basement of the National Guard Armory in Silverton, Oregon, 50 miles south of Portland. The public library is across the street. Our room in the armory is clean and dry, and is accessed through three doors which are locked to the public. The Chamber of Commerce and Little League also share the building.

In the beginning, Tom Abrego, Keith Keppel, Bennett Jones and I met with Allen Miller, the archivist for the Silverton library, David Kinney, City manager Pro Tem, and Tina Lassiter, his assistant. We have had complete cooperation from each of them and much helpful advice from Allen in library procedures. With invaluable help from Keith, Bennett and I spent three days a week for a month sorting materials contained in five 5 drawer steel files, twelve 4 drawer steel files and 58 cardboard containers of various sizes.

We have filed in order the AIS bulletins, Region bulletins and newsletters, Section bulletins and newsletters, and Foreign bulletins (including a good collection of British Iris Society Yearbooks). Allen Miller suggested we keep two copies of each (if we had them), which is standard library procedure.

We also have a wonderful collection of iris catalogs—some as far back as 1925—which have been sorted by Region, to be alphabetized at a later date. There are 3 cartons of file cards which are the work of those who were indexing the early bulletins some

years ago, newspaper clippings, show schedules, minutes of Board of Directors meetings and miscellaneous other items.

To maintain an inventory control, I will request that regional RVP's and Section presidents have their publications sent one copy to AIS Library and one copy to HIPS:

AIS Library
c/o Evelyn Jones
5635 SW Boundary St.
Portland, OR 97221-1009

HIPS
c/o Larry Harder
Box 547
Ponca, NE 68770

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The Rare Iris

of Russia

by Professor George I. Rodionenko, August 17, 1995

HIS ARTICLE REPRESENTS A BRIEF REVIEW OF THE problem of conservation of rare irises in Russia and neighboring countries as well as some of the results of the work of the Iris Species Symposium held at the Missouri Botanical Gardens in the Spring of 1995.

The last decades are characterized by the discovery of some extremely interesting species in the family *Iridaceae* and particularly species in the genus *Iris*. Unfortunately we have also seen the simultaneous reduction and/or disappearance of certain rare plant species in our native flora and this includes *Iris* species as well.

Let me present some concrete examples, beginning with some *Iris* species of the section *Oncocyclus* which, because of their beauty, are undoubtedly among the finest of all irises. In the Caucasus Mountain Region and in Middle Asia there are ten species in this section and only one of them, *Iris schelkownikowii* has an aroma. I have not found such an aroma in any other *Oncocyclus Iris* species in our native flora or any other species in this section from any part of Asia Minor, Israel and other countries. Unfortunately there are no known forms of this species in cultivation. And what of this plant in the wild? About twenty years ago, it was still easy to collect this rare iris in the vicinity of Baku, Azerbaidzhan. It was formerly grown in the collections of the Baku Botanical Gardens. Now it has disappeared. I have a weak hope that it may still be found on the mountain ridges of Karadzha-Dag and Boz-Dag in the eastern Caucasus Mountain Range in eastern Turkey. Because of the conflicts raging between Azerbaidzhan and Armenia this area is still inaccessible.

No less enigmatic fortune has touched the naturally rare *Alatavia winkleri* (= *Iris winkleri*) {J.W. Waddick note: *Iris winkleri* has been assigned to the subgenus *Hermodactyloides*, the *reticulata* irises, but Prof. Rodionenko plans on redefining this species and describing a new monotypic genus}. None of the world's botanical gardens has

this species in its collections. During all the time since its original description (1884) it has been cultivated only once. As you can judge from the article in the journal "Garden and Kitchen-garden" for 1889, this small bulbous plant grew very well, flowered and produced seed at the farm of the beautiful botanist Olga Fedchenko.

Our numerous attempts to collect this rare iris species from the wild were all in vain. I continue to believe deeply in the real existence of *A. winkleri*. On the map of the high mountains of Kirgizia and Tadzhikistan there are spots marked where I think this species must still be found. There are now some botanists who are ready to take part in searching for this rare species. The most persevering in cooperating on this difficult task are Michail Diev (Moscow) and Irina Popova (Kirgizia Botanical Garden, Bishek). Both of them will participate in the Rare Iris Study Center that was discussed at the Iris Species Symposium in St. Louis.

In the north Caucasus near the vicinity of Dagestan and at a small village named Zudakhar, another small rare iris is still preserved. This is *Iris timofejewii*. This dwarf bearded iris is very modest externally to all appearances, but in the course of hybridization it passes along its stiff stem, elegant form and dark violet pigment. Its warm gray sickle-shaped foliage looks like that of an *Oncocylus* species. In my opinion, this species of wild dwarf bearded iris could be an irreplaceable component in producing hybrids between the bearded irises and the *Oncocylus* irises. For successful cultivation it requires a dry steppe climate and loamy soil. The conditions of the Denver Botanical garden might be very suitable for it. In the wild there may be only a few hundred plants of this species and, because of the many herds of sheep and goats, it may quickly become extinct in nature.

Among Caucasian rarities special attention must be paid to *Iridodictyum winogradowii* (= *Iris winogradowii*) which can be found on the Lomtis-Mta near the health resort of Borzhomi. This wonderful, small, early-spring bulbous plant is the most beautiful species in the genus *Iridodictyum* (=sect. *Reticulata*). Its high mountain environment has allowed it to be successfully adapted to the northern latitude of Leningrad. Fortunately it is widely grown by the bulb firm of Tubergen in Holland. In 1974 I was lucky to obtain ten bulbs of this species among sub-alpine rocks on the

Gagra mountain range in Abkhazia. In former times it grew there, but it has now disappeared.

Among the dwarf bearded irises, it is necessary to characterize and define the similar *Iris mandshurica* and *I. tigridia*. The first species is met by a few plants at Primorskij Krai in eastern Siberia. I gathered this iris on the hills near the settlement of Kraskino. It looks like *I. flavissima*, but differs distinctly from this species and all other dwarf iris by its particular root system and vertically oriented rhizome which lives for only a very short period, not more than two or three years. According to its chromosome number ($2n=14$) it also occupies a special position. For good growth it requires a dry, rather warm climate. At the Botanical garden in Vladivostok, this species and other irises are studied by L. N. Mironova.

The second species, *Iris tigridia*, is far from disappearing. It grows over a wide area including the Altai Mountain in middle and eastern Siberia as well as Mongolia where it is well studied at the Botanical Gardens by Mrs. Lu Enkhtuya (Ulaanbataar, Mongolia). This species has potential use in hybridization to produce bearded irises with spotted petals.

Our Russian flora is especially rich in rare species of the Spuria iris group. *Iris pontica* is the most interesting for use in rock gardens. This iris is met with favorable regard in culture. When it blooms at our Iridarium, I am always surprised by its large violet-red flowers that come out like mushrooms from under the soil. Its natural distribution is very limited. Lately plants with golden yellow flowers have also been discovered, but only M. Diev has this rarity at present.

Iris ludwigii is less decorative, but it is very rare in the wild and it is nearly unknown in cultivation. It doesn't survive in our wet climate, but needs dry steppe conditions. It is quite fantastic that each fall actually has a minute beard consisting of one-celled hairs. It is found near the vicinity of the town of Zyrjanovsk along the Bukhtarma River. Recently a second location has been discovered in Novosibirsk by the botanist V. Doron'kin.

Among the long-stemmed Spuria Irises, the following iris are interesting and rare species: *Iris notha*, *I. demetrii* and *I. machowii**. Their main ornamental value is in their beautiful bracts. I emphasize

this peculiarity because the rest of the Spuria Irises and their cultivars usually have messy swollen bracts that greatly reduce the beauty of their flowers. These three species share their ecology (they avoid too wet soils), structural similarity and chromosome numbers ($2n=38$) and differ sharply from the rest of the Spuria species of Europe and the Caucasus. It is therefore a mistake to consider them as subspecies of *Iris spuria*.

The most accessible of these three species is *Iris notha*. The Botanical Garden of Stavropol has a collection of its various forms. There Galina Shevchenko works with this and other Caucasian Iris species. There are many iris species in her collection including *I. pseudonotha**, *I. halophila*, natural spuria hybrids, *I. pumila*, *I. scariosa* (= *I. astrachanica*) and a number of other hybrids.

Iris demetrii is rather rare in nature, and now because of conflict between Armenia and Azerbaidzhan it is inaccessible for collection. Plants collected by me from Karabakh did not survive our climate. *Iris machowii** has shown greater adaptation. It was collected in the vicinity of Kurgan by my pupil V. Makhov. It is similar to *I. notha*. It is difficult to say why it occurs in West Siberia. It seems absolutely certain that because of its ornamental and adaptive features it should be considered a rare species.

The plain bracts and absence of aroma of the flowers should be considered as shortcomings of Spuria irises. The first fault may be improved by using *I. notha* or *I. machowii** in hybridization. The second fault requires the use of aromatic forms. I found such forms



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in populations of *I. pseudonotha** near the mouth of the Kuma River in the north Caucasus.

The flowers of the *Spuria* iris species usually secrete nectar in the floral tube (nectaries), but also on the outside walls of this tube. It may seem strange, but the same properties have been found in the flowers of *Iris lactea* (both are members of the subgenus *Limniris*).

V. Makhov has discovered a population of *I. lactea* form *grandiflora* with very large flowers in districts of Western Siberia and at the vicinity of Kurgan. Dr. J. Waddick has also shown us more about the original forms of this species in the British Iris Society Yearbook, 1994. He tells of common occurrence of bicolored forms with different colors on the standards and falls found in plants growing in Western China. The value of *I. lactea* is not fully appreciated; beside it has high heat and salt tolerance. Last year a Russian pharmacologist discovered a natural antiviral property in the leaves of this species.

In regard to rare irises, I must emphasize that it is not just species that are included. In some cases rarity may also refer to smaller taxonomic units. It is more evident in those cases where you need to compare the characteristics of individual plants of the same species, but collected from different locations through its distribution. The collector must try to determine which of its different populations has more valuable properties worth introducing into cultivation. For example in regard to *Iris albertii*, plants of five different populations, from five different sites were brought to Leningrad. Only those plants collected from the slope of the rocky ridge of a mountain in the Zailijskij Alatau have adapted to the climate at Leningrad's latitude. It was only this population (under number 466) that was tested by me and used in hybridizing the unique characteristics of this species including its early flowering, winter hardiness and resistance to soft rot, a disease that bearded irises are very susceptible to.

For more than thirty years we tried to cultivate Japanese Irises in our northern climate. These trials did not give positive results; winter frost was too severe and there was not enough summer heat. Success was finally obtained only after we had gathered a northern

population of *Iris ensata* from near the vicinity of Vladivostok. We pollinated the Japanese Iris cultivar "Sano Watashi" with pollen from these wild plants of *Iris ensata* and have managed at last to establish a series of cultivars of Japanese Irises that grow well and flower in the latitude of Leningrad.

We also worked for many years with the species of *Oncocylus* and *Regelia* irises to try to introduce them into cultivation, but found that none of them will survive in our Iridarium for more than two to three years. The only exception is *Iris hoogiana* from a population of plants growing in the Hissar Mountain Range in Tadzhikistan. In our northerly climate, it was the only species from the *Regelia* or *Oncocylus* sections which could be used in hybridization to increase hardiness.


Iris species like *Iris hoogiana* may be referred to as "ancoralis" varieties from the Latin "ancoralis" which literally means 'to anchor'. An analogous name may be given to other such northern populations such as the Vladivostok population of *I. ensata* and *I. albertii* (#466). This, the "anchored" concept, was developed by me. The point is that in studying the problem of finding iris that are hardy in the north, we were able in each case to select "anchored" species or populations, and by hybridization, pass their special genetic characteristics to other species as needed.

Figuratively speaking, such species or populations act as an "anchor" to more northern regions and through them may form a "chain" of hybrids with similar characteristics.

Conclusions: One aim of the Iris Species Symposium in St. Louis, as I understand it, was the task of determining the status of rare and endangered iris species and related genera in the Family Iridaceae. A list would indicate which of the characteristics of these rare species is most valuable. It should be determined which of the species, populations and forms should be conserved in their natural, wild distribution or if others should be brought into cultivation and thus preserved. If rare species are disappearing in their natural environments, they must be moved into cultivation without damage to the wild populations. It will be necessary to locate other regions with suitable environment and soil, climate and other conditions where these species will flourish.

There is also a problem of developing at the international level

a network of professional botanists and astute amateurs to study rare and endangered iris in the wild and establish a means of saving the rarest *Iris* species.

The most important element of future work will be not only the gathering of these rare *Iris* species, but also the rational utilization of their useful properties. Hybridization of these rare irises will play an important role in the integration of these characters into cultivated irises. It is pleasant to note that the initiation of the Rare Iris Study Center of Dr. James Waddick, Robert Pries and other members of the Symposium has already begun to work on these studies. 

*Note: *Iris machowii* and *Iris pseudonotha* are both undescribed in the scientific literature. Seeds and plants from the seeds of *I. pseudonotha* have been circulated among iris gardeners for some years, but without a published taxonomic description and definition of either species, the names at present are without taxonomic validity.

J. W. Waddick

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Genetic Engineering of Iris

Progress Report: February 1996

by Dr. Tony Chen, Prof., Dept. of Horticulture,
Oregon State University

OBJECTIVES:

1. To develop an efficient protocol for iris transformation.
2. Regeneration of transgenic iris plants.
3. To develop transgenic iris plants with altered flower color.

Plant regeneration from iris suspension cultures.

Current work on iris regeneration has been focused on the induction of somatic embryogenesis from suspension cultures. We observed that there are two types of iris suspension cultures grown in flasks after several cycles of subculturing. Some flasks remain clear in appearance. In this case, the liquid phase of the culture can be easily separated from the mass of cells. Very often, however, the cells secrete a large amount of gelatinous compounds into the liquid medium and resulted in gel-like suspension cultures. In this case, cell clumps are embedded in the gelatinous liquid.

Iris suspension cultures (cv. 'Skating Party') were maintained in J1C liquid medium and subcultured every three weeks. Suspension cultured cells were transferred to agar media (designated as N₃-0, N₃-1, and N₃-2, varying in the concentration of kinetin) for 8 weeks to induce the formation of somatic embryos. Cells from the flasks with clear appearance grew only callus tissue (Figure 1). Cells from flasks of

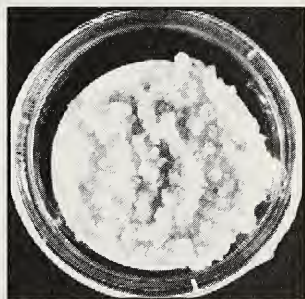
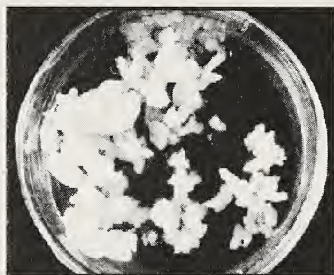


Figure 1.
Callus tissue growth from normal
suspension cultures when cultured in
embryo-inducing media. 8 weeks.

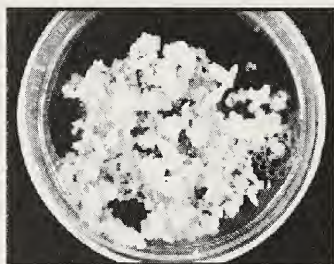
varying degree of gelling showed different capacity for somatic embryogenesis (Figure 2). There was no significant difference among the 3 media tested. The embryos are formed in clumps and are difficult to separate into individual embryos. Therefore, individual clumps were transferred to embryo developing media (4 media were tested: JIC with and without plant growth regulators, and N₃-o with and without plant growth regulators). Based on the number of clumps that were produced in each plate, N₃-o medium with or without plant growth regulators was better than JIC medium. The clumps were separated into individual embryos or smaller Lumpers and were transferred to germination medium. A large portion of embryos developed into complete iris plants (Figure 3).

In one experiment, we obtained 582 clumps from 36 small plates. About 30 – 40% of these clumps developed into plants. To the best of our knowledge, this is probably the most efficient system developed for plant regeneration from tissue culture of *Iris germanica*. With the success of this regeneration system, we are in position to develop a successful transformation protocol for iris.

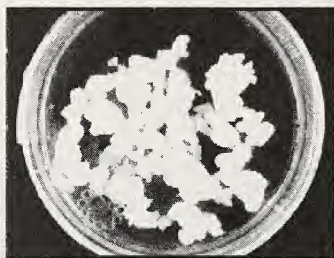
Figure 2. The formation of somatic embryo clumps from gel-producing cultures when cultured in embryo-inducing media (N₃-O medium for 8 weeks).



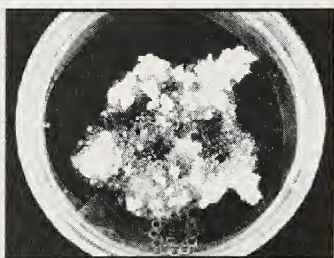
A. Cells from very gelatinous cultures



B. Cells from slight gelatinous cultures.



C. Cells from gelatinous cultures with light yellow color.



D. Cells from gelatinous cultures with fine cell aggregates.

Current experiments on plant regeneration from suspension cultured cells


1. Since the gel-producing culture seems to be the key to plant regeneration, we are testing various culture conditions to enhance the production of gel-like cultures. The conditions we are testing including the source of callus tissues for suspension culture, age of suspension culture, media formulation, and the level of oxygen in liquid media.

2. We are also refining the composition of embryo inducing media, embryo developing media, and embryo germination media, in order to further improve the efficiency of plant regeneration.



Figure 3. The regeneration of iris plants from somatic embryos

Transformation and selection for transformed iris cells

We have obtained improved versions of Green Fluorescent Protein (GFP) gene from bioluminescent jellyfish. We will start to transform iris cells with these genes once the incoming research assistant is on board in March, 1996. 

Culture Corner

by Terry Aitken

JULY, AUGUST OR SEPTEMBER IS THE IDEAL TRANSPLANT time for bearded irises. The colder, short growing season regions should move plants during July so that new root growth can be established before the soils begin to cool a month later. Moderate regions through central North America can move at a more leisurely pace, (waiting for cooler weather for the planter) and transplant during August. Warmer, subtropical climates need to wait for soil temperatures to drop, moving their transplant time into September. Since most commercial shipments cannot wait that late, the recipient of new plants should pot up the irises, water and store in a cool, partially shaded spot. Wait for less hostile temperatures (below 90° F / 36° C) before setting bearded irises in their final display location.

Plants with an established rootball can be moved almost anytime that the soil can be worked. "Mud in" well to remove air pockets from the root zone. Bloom could be affected on plants moved just prior to their normal bloom time.


Beardless irises can be transplanted any time the roots are in active growth. Japanese, Louisianas and Siberians are good candidates for summer transplant, using a similar time frame as for bearded irises, with the shorter growing season regions transplanting earlier. Spurias like to dry out and rest during the summer heat, so it is best to wait for cooler weather in September to move them. Pacific Coast irises are the most troublesome to transplant. They go dormant in the summer and are best transplanted when fall rains begin, or following heavy irrigation to bring on new root growth, and when the soils begin to cool in

the fall. People are also experimenting with spring transplant, just prior to bloom as a possible alternative to late fall transplant.

Mulch

Northern gardens should use a loose, insulating material such as bark chips, oak leaves or pine needles. Much of the damage to iris plants occurs in early spring when tender new growth is frozen below 20° F (-8° C) and solar heat fractures the plant tissue. Once the nighttime temperatures have risen above this level, insulating materials should be removed from all bearded iris types. Mulch may be left around beardless irises throughout summer to act as a weed control and to minimize watering. Take care to pull mulch back from the immediate crown area to avoid crown rot during heavy spring rains.

Southern gardens may need insulating protection from excessive soil temperatures in summer (consistently over 100° F / 38° C). Again, loose materials that do not retain moisture are best. In the drier regions of the Southwest, growers even use sand. Some of the best irises we've seen in West Texas through Arizona were growing under high tree canopies (light shade), or on east and north sides of buildings. For central and northern areas both bearded and beardless irises will bloom best in full sun, with a minimum requirement of half a day's sun.

The *AIS Bulletin* is distributed worldwide and can only deal with iris culture in general concepts. It is strongly recommended that novice irisarians contact their nearest Regional Vice President or Section Representative for more specific advice on micro climates and growing different types of irises in their specific areas. 

International News

Iris News Beyond Our Borders

by Clarence Mahan

Overseas Iris Contacts Via Internet

WITH THE RECENT ESTABLISHMENT OF THE *IRIS-L* on the Internet by Tom Tadfor Little, a new era of almost instant communications on irises has opened up. *IRIS-L* is an Internet mailing list devoted to discussion of garden irises. It was made possible through the generous support of Bill Smoot, Mike Lowe, and others. It costs nothing to subscribe to the *IRIS-L*, and as a member you receive messages concerning iris subjects from other members, and can respond to these messages or compose your own messages whenever you turn on your computer. More than a hundred people signed up for *IRIS-L* in the first couple of months of operation, including at least two Regional Vice Presidents and several AIS affiliated society and section officers. Our *AIS Bulletin* editor's son, Scott Aitken, is also a subscriber.

One of the most fascinating aspects of the *IRIS-L* is that it has enabled Americans and Canadians who subscribe to get to know and discuss irises with some very interesting people in other countries. The *IRIS-L* has made the "world of irises" truly international. We have been having discussions with iris enthusiasts in Great Britain, the Netherlands, Sweden, and New Zealand.

Herman Van Beusekom, a nurseryman from the Netherlands, was an early subscriber. Herman says his primary interest is alpine plants, but that he has been trying to get Dutch gardeners to become more interested in rhizomatous irises, especially those suited to rock gardens. His iris catalogue lists several forms of *Ii. cristata* and *unguicularis*, as well as some species not often available in the U.S. and Canada, such as *Ii. gracilipes*, *glockiana*, and *rossii*. (Unfortunately, Herman does not export!)

Gunnar Anderson is a plantsman from Sweden who has made many interesting contributions to the *IRIS-L*. We have learned a lot about gardening in Sweden from Gunnar, and Gunnar has

provided the catalyst for many discussions about various types of irises suitable for Swedish gardens.

Ian Black from England has an avid interest in many types of plants and particularly in bulbous irids. He has a large collection of bulbous irids from South Africa. Someone recently asked him how many halfhardy bulbous species he was growing, and he speculated that he had about one hundred. When he counted them Ian found he had over two hundred such species and that about one-third of them were irids. Ian tells us he grows a "fairly motley crew of bearded irises which serve their function in the borders."

As a favor, Ian wrote to Ms. Sue Pierce, Editor of the British Iris Society Newsletter, to tell her how BIS members could join the IRIS-L so that she could publicize it. Anyone who is interested in participating in the IRIS-L and making new on-line friends at home and abroad send e-mail to LISTSERV@Rt66.com. In the body of the message type: SUBSCRIBE IRIS-L <your name>. If you have any difficulty, contact Tom Tadfor Little at this address: tlittle@Rt66.com.

Irises in Argentina

The following news item, written by Monica Poole, appeared in the British Iris Society Newsletter No. 105, Spring, 1996.

Some thirty-five years ago a group of us from the Buenos Aires Garden Club were keen to form an Argentine Iris Society, but we never really got going. Most members preferred to go on as they were—growing a few cultivars to show in our spring flower shows from mid October to early November. We have a large section devoted to irises in each show; bearded, beardless, crested, although TBs have always been the most popular.

I myself have been growing irises for at least 40 years and have belonged to the AIS for 38 years and to the BIS from '58 – '61. In '52 I started importing TBs from America. Then I started with spurias, ensatas, siberians and louisianas. In '56 my husband and I visited New Zealand, bringing back irises from the late Mrs. Jean Stevens. Her book on the culture of *Irises for the Southern Hemisphere* has been very useful to us.

The Buenos Aires Garden Club was founded on 3rd August 1921, so will celebrate their 75th anniversary this year. They plan

one large show in the city to be held on October 24th and 25th, and visitors will be most welcome. Please contact Christine Raffo, Vice President BAGC, Peru 630-5-20, Capital Federal, Argentina.

American Bred Irises Selected for Further Assessment for Royal Horticultural Society's Award of Garden Merit

Among the irises "Selected for Further Assessment for the Award of Garden Merit" by the Joint Iris Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society and British Iris Society in 1995 were twenty-two American bred cultivars. The irises so honored:

Siberian

ROARING JELLY (Schafer/Sacks '92)
ANNICK (McEwen '86)

Standard Dwarf Bearded

CREAM CAKE (Niswonger '90)
LACED LEMONDADE (Warburton '70)
LISA JANE (Shoop '92)
MICHAEL PAUL (W. Jones '79)
MINI MIGHT (Weiler '92)
TOY BOAT (P. Black '89)

Miniature Tall Bearded

CAROLYN ROSE (Dunderman '80)
CHICKEE (Dunderman '80)
JOETTE (F. Williams '78)
LADY BELLE (T. Varner '86)
NAMBE (Williamson '46)
NEW IDEA (Hager '70)
REMINISCENCE (Mahan '94)
ROBIN GOODFELLOW (Mahan '94)
SLIM JIM (F. William '79)
WELCH'S REWARD (Welch '88)

Tall Bearded

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE (Schreiner '84)
PROUD TRADITION (Schreiner '90)
THORNBIRD (Byers '89)

Border Bearded

TINK (Durrance '91)

On a personal note, I was delighted to note a large number of older but excellent cultivars on this list. I know that many of my friends in the Historic Iris Preservation Society will be delighted to see NAMBE on this list. I suspect my dear friend Jean Witt, who has done so much to educate us in the virtues of MTBs and to teach us that newer does not necessarily mean better, will be especially pleased.

British Iris Society Awards for 1995

In the January 1996 issue of the *Bulletin* it was reported that the British Iris Society had chosen our own Bennett C. Jones to receive the Foster Memorial Plaque, its highest award, in 1995.


We wish to join in extending our congratulations to Bennett, who is certainly a most deserving recipient.

The Pilkington Award for 1995 for outstanding service was given to Mary Tubbs. Mary Tubbs has been a member of the BIS for forty years and has performed many duties for that Society and for its Kent Group.

The announcement in the *BIS Year Book* states: "She is a lady of great charm who, in her own quiet and inimitable way is a jewel, and has given outstanding service to the Society."

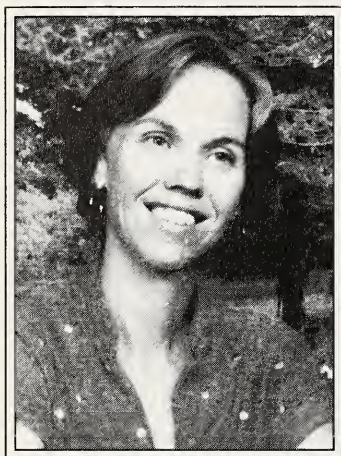
Mary Tubbs' Siberian iris CATHERINE HOWARD was also honored by the BIS in 1995. It received the Hugh Miller Trophy, the award given annually to the most deserving cultivar of a beardless iris in the Dykes Trial. Jennifer Hewitt's explanation as to how this dark blue-violet self with paler signal came by its name is in the 1995 *Year Book*, and I must smile every time I recall the story:

"Surely there can be few irises which have started their progress towards this trophy by being decapitated, but 'Catherine Howard' lost its head to a flower arrangement and had to be rescued so it could be shown to the Joint Iris Committee by its raiser, Mary Tubbs, in 1987. It was Selected for Trial at Wisley nonetheless, and also entered the BIS Trials where it gained its AGC in 1992 and had to be registered. Naming it after the fifth of Henry VIII's wives, who also lost her head, seemed appropriate though luckily the event was not fatal for the iris!"

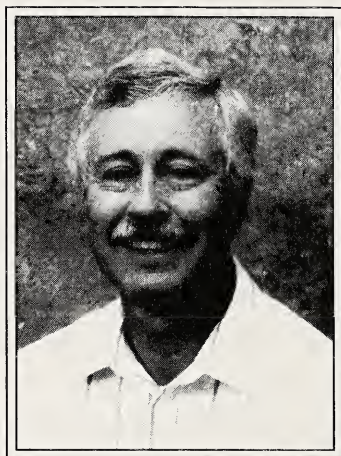
Also winning a top BIS award in 1995 was C.E.C. Bartlett's standard dwarf bearded iris PALE SHADES. With silvery blue-white standards and pale buttery cream falls and blue beard, PALE SHADES was awarded the *Souvenir de M. Lémon* Trophy, the award to the most deserving bearded iris other than a tall bearded iris. 

Class of '96

The New Regional Vice Presidents



Glenna Chapman
Region 20
CO



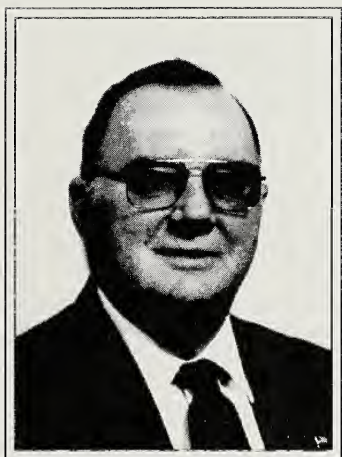
Marshall Goforth
Region 5
SC, GA, FL, PR



Anne Lowe
Region 4
MD, DC, VA, WV, NC



Karen Bergamo
Region 23
NM



Cal Reuter
Region 21
NE, IA, ND, SD



Kathleen Guest
Region 2
NY



Bettie Nutter
Region 3
PA, DE

Contemporary Views

by Perry Dyer

Editors Note:

This is the first of a two part article. This part includes Perry Dyer's awards, and reviews of Tall Bearded Irises. The second part in the October Bulletin will conclude with reviews of all other Iris types.

O THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE USED TO SEEING THIS REVIEW on a regular basis, here is a joint review of the past two seasons.

A late freeze in March 1995 zapped 80% of the dwarf bloom and 50% of the other bearded and Louisiana bloom. Much of this review will entail a much nicer '94 bloom season and, of course, the ocean of bloom seen at the AIS National in Portland. My brain is still whirling from all the bloom.

First, as I review notes and start grouping the varieties being considered for the write-up, I go back to the previous editions of Contemporary Views to see if I'm repeating myself. With rare exceptions (in the awards section), I only mention a variety once. Second, the same philosophy applies that select group of "classics" at the end of each color group. I keep a running list of those varieties, at least 15 years old, that had an impact on me in my lifelong iris journey. A bit of nostalgia, shall we say. In some cases, for me, the "memory" has become "reality" again, in that I've *added* some of the old classics to my collection again. Things such as BAYBERRY CANDLE and HIGH LIFE have *no* counterpart in today's market.

On with the review...

Contemporary Views' award winners are reviewed first (with runners-up listed, in order), then tall bearded by general color group, the medians reviewed by class, followed by a major portion devoted to Louisiana irises, American and foreign. Throughout the review the term "New Iris" is defined as irises introduced in 1993, 1994, and 1995.

1. ***The Contemporary Award***, given to the Best New Iris seen: MELTED BUTTER (Chun Fan '94) was very impressive in the mass of bloom at Schreiners. It literally stood head and shoulders above the rest, held up on thick, strong stalks inherited from the great CUP RACE. Superbly named, the gigantic flowers are full-formed and leathery, done in a cream base with deeper butter infusions in the standards' midribs, at the shoulders, and then generously outpouring over the falls in an irregular manner. From a newer hybridizer on the East Coast. I was just as impressed with it on first-year bloom here in central Oklahoma in '95.

Runners-up: SMART MOVE (Keppel '95). In a color class that is still weak for overall quality, the incorporation of the HAMBLÉN bloodline (ENCHANTING) gives a totally different approach to variegatas and should open some doors. Tall, borne on strong thick stalks carrying 2 to 3 branches. Standards are golden bronze, enlivened with a suggestion of butterscotch. Broad horizontal falls are a brighter cherry red than we have in other variegates such as SMART ALECK (Gatty). Although a large flower, the form is structurally more sound than others such as SUPREME SULTAN (Schreiner). The beards are deep purple heavily tipped bronze. Notably improved plant habits with husky increase. CAJUN SUNRISE (Mertzweiller '93) is already making a bold statement in the Louisiana world. I "predict" as bright a future for this stunning bicolor as its color presentation. It is a sizzling brick red with a brilliant gold sunburst ray pattern exploding from the heart of the flower, then edged in a dramatic halo in gold. Fully sunfast in the blazing Oklahoma mid-May heat. ISLAND SURF (Aitken '94) is a reverse blue amoena type with personality. Standards are remindful of SEA VENTURE (B. Jones) in a medium blue, flushed with a heavy infiltration of deep blue arising up from the base of the midribs. Horizontal falls have a tight look in light blue, heavily flushed a moody indigo blue, especially in the heart of the flower. Deeply waved (versus ruffled) parts, as suggested by the name. Outstanding plant habits with healthy foliage and strong increase.

2. ***The L'Elegante Award*** is given to the New Iris with the most beautiful individual flower seen. This does not necessarily address the overall plant habits, but all aspects must be

acceptable to merit the variety receiving this award. And of course, “beauty is in the eye of the beholder”, but nonetheless, these are ones which impressed me for their sheer beauty: SHIRLEY M (Ev. Kegerise '95) is a fine advancement of its great parent, the overlooked SOPHISTICATION (Hamblen). It is a bit taller with the same outstanding presentation of its modified candelabra branching and timing of buds. It has an eloquent satin finish to add to its pristine effect. The contrasting blue beards are out of this world, soft and elegant, and a perfect shade to complement the satin pink flower color. Love at first sight, but the closer you look, you'll find a high-quality iris. Soul-soothing!

Runners-up: FULL FASHIONED (A. Blodgett '93) was surely “the sleeper” of the Oregon convention, discovered in an unpretentious clump amidst the mass of color at the Meek garden. It is a deeply ruffled, laced claret rose, capped with bright tangerine beards. The form is full and rounded, strong enough structurally to handle the extravagant ruffling. A shining star in a color class amazingly limited in its number of worthy members. FROSTY ELEGANCE (C. Palmer '94) is an Intermediate which is perhaps the finest introduction from this Oklahoma hybridizer since the release of his great Sass winner, SEA PATROL. It has the same quality features of his overlooked white IB, SNOW FESTIVAL, but the flowers have even wider form (the falls are actually round), complemented with perfectly placed moderate ruffling—any deeper would be awkward on the smaller IB flowers. Cool and crisp, with diamond dusting, yet thick leathery substance. Back at the Meeks', one of Duane's new ones easily made the final cut for Most Beautiful: FALLEN ANGEL ('95) is a refined, sophisticated spin-off from the great Shoop line of “reverse bicolors”. Standards are a deep mauve pink, infused even deeper in the midribs. Contrasting falls are a softer lavender-tinted ivory, gently blended with hints of mauve and pink. The colors are pulled together with a shrimp beard. A lovely color scheme, typically difficult to transcribe into a written description. Delicate ruffling and diamond dusting are the finishing touches.

3. **The 9-1-1 Award** is given to the New Iris that is the most significant hybridizing achievement or color break. Those

listed this year are a good indicator of what I think of the creative, innovative work being done Down Under by the genius, Barry Blyth. **ELECTRIQUE** ('94) is "simply shocking" (no pun intended). A mysterious, moody color array, with icy lavender-blue standards sitting atop falls done in an odd shade of slate rose, all set up with mesmerizing, indeed hypnotic black beards! Actually, upon closer inspection, you'll find that the beards are raspberry to purple based, then tipped deep bronze. Sounds as though, surely, the effect would be muddy. Not so. Nothing like it on the market, and it has great plant and stalk habits, too. Based on early results, it is already clear that this color break will become a major player in the evolution of bearded irises!

Runners-up: **AFFAIRE** (Blyth '94), another stunning new color pattern in bicolors. In a world of too many look-alikes, no one will mistake this (or **ELECTRIQUE**) for any other! Standards are a clear pale lavender, infused with blue in cooler weather. Contrasting falls are a bold mustard yellow with self beards. Again, the description may sound drab or muddy. Instead, a bold template just begging to be used to achieve new and unique color combos. **SNOWY CHANGE** ('94), a color break in tetraploid Louisiana irises, is a super first introduction from Barry Clark, a new hybridizer from Covington, Louisiana. From a cross of **PROFESSOR PAUL** (Mertzweiller) selfed, this is the first introduced tet to have segregated to white. When first open, there are undertones of blue and lilac, but this quickly changes to a cold white self after the sun hits it. It retains some of the lime green texture veining, causing the flower to hold its fresh look until the flower folds. Superb form and substance, of course! It is very scarce, but will become very popular once it receives better distribution. Incredible, after hundreds of hybridizers and thousands of varieties registered over the years, the "name of all names" in irisdom is just now being used: **RAINBOW GODDESS** (Ernst '94) is a smashing reverse bicolor type which the late George Shoop so masterfully unlocked. **RAINBOW GODDESS** is a breakthrough in plant habits, stalks, bud count, and flower form. It makes strong healthy plants with above average increase. Standards are a rich rose-purple, completely saturated. Falls are a cream base, but then blessed with colorful

yellow-orange rims and shoulders, with some of the standards' moody coloring filtering through. Bright tangerine beards add a pleasing effect to the color scheme. Wonderful form, with parts that are broad but still artistic and not blocky.

4. **The Sun Belt Award** is given to the Best Proven Variety, i.e., one that has been on the market long enough to be thoroughly tested in the Midwest (at least 4 years): PROUD TRADITION (Schreiner '90) has developed into the finest neglecta, for overall performance, in the Heartland. It is a very masculine flower, with a rich velvet texture, broad parts with virtually no ruffling. The color saturation is complete, with heaviest of substance, allowing the flower to retain all its pigmentation through the life of the flower. The stalks are husky and tall, holding up the large flowers with dignity. The plant habits are impeccable, with huge thick plants with strong increase. A total vision of health, head to toe.

Runners-up: PUMPIN' IRON (Black '90) has emerged from the pack as the leader of several fine Standard Dwarfs released by Paul at the same time. It is a rich full sooty black from the red side, with an even deeper intensification in the falls in the form of a black cherry spot pattern. Smooth at the waist (hafts), topped off with deepest purple beards. No steroids here—it's all natural, with floriferous bloom habits, plenty of increase for next year's performance, and gently rippling muscle-ruffles. Incredible carrying power in the garden, in spite of its deep saturation. RASPBERRY FUDGE (Keppel '89) is a colorful warm plicata. In a cream to light orange base, heavily marked in deep raspberry. The standards are almost completely overlaid in raspberry. The falls have more of the base color showing through, with sanding and peppering in raspberry at the edges, more intense in the shoulders. Deep carrot to brick red beards set the flowers aglow. A notable improvement in growth and disease resistance, and I think this one cultivar will turn the tide in warm plicatas, correcting inbred problems and reintroducing hybrid vigor to a highly evolved line. FOUNDATION VAN GOGH (Anfosso '90) surely qualifies as the "sleeper of the decade" for me. Oh! what I almost missed! The more I grow this French amoena, the more fond I become of it, and my respect for

its garden qualities increases each bloom season. From one of those lines that has been a “tough nut to crack”, FONDATION VAN GOGH is a colorful apricot amoena, with a distinct cream band evenly positioned amidst deep swirling ruffles. The standards are creamy white with a heavy flush of apricot in the midribs, which adds to its grace and fullness of color. Superb plant habits with strong, clean foliage.

5. ***The Dark Horse Award*** is given to the variety introduced within the past 10 years or so that I feel has been overlooked by AIS judges, and deserves/deserved higher awards: MARIACHI MUSIC (Maryott '88) is a gregarious color gem with rich tan standards heavily flushed plum, sitting atop bold electric red-violet falls with a hint of a band in brown. Deep ripple-ruffles set the flowers in motion. A shimmering texture gives added carrying power in the garden, with the suggestion of changeable silk. Commendable plant habits, with dependable performance year after year.

Runners-up: It is inconceivable to believe that anything released by the famous hybridizer, the late Bee Warburton, could go unnoticed, considering Bee's popularity, the distribution of her introductions, and the respect among irisarians worldwide. Yet many of this artisan's last releases went virtually unheralded. The lack of recognition of SUNNY FAVOR ('84) is the greatest offense. An Intermediate which is staged in clean yellow standards, with shiny glacier white falls, rimmed and hafted with the principal yellow color. Tight rounded form has light ruffling. The dainty stalks have well-placed branches with a grace and charm that every good Intermediate should possess. Plant habits are without peer. Another great median that got lost in a sea of introductions was STAR SEARCH (Willott '85). This Standard Dwarf, amazingly from pink breeding, is a mother-of-pearl effect with soft pale yellow standards somewhat infused with blue. The falls gradually transform from the pale blue around violet beards, down to the standards' yellow coloring at the bottom of the falls. Incredible wide form, gentle ruffling, and unique sheen for texture. Subtle, refined, and very worthy. LIPSTICK LIES (Blyth '85) is an intriguing “barely-plec” that provides the hybridizer with an entirely new road to travel.

Moderately sized flowers are a cool chaste white, with only telltale plicata lines in deep blue extending from the shoulders. The “lipstick” is a sizzling bright red beard, bushy and daring.

6. *The Pick of the Litter Award* goes to the most outstanding seedling viewed this year. Of the hundreds of seedlings evaluated the past 2 years, I had to come home to pick the winner: TOM JOHNSON (Paul Black '96) is the finest Tall Bearded this talented hybridizer has ever produced. As Seedling #A68A, it won both the HC and EC pre-introductory awards. Many more honors will come its way. From a classic cross, (WITCHES' SABBATH X IN TOWN), this deep neglecta sets a new standard in neglectas. High-gloss, deep violet standards are well shaped. Debonair near-black falls have a suave velvet texture, outlined with a band of the glossy sheen of the violet standards' color. This is all set off with stunning bright carrot red beards and absolutely smooth hafts. The falls are full, rounded, and nearly horizontal. Tall, willowy stalks are deceptively sturdy, with formal candelabra branching with 4 or 5 branches, spur, and even lower rebranching. Once you total up a well-grown stalk, you're approaching 12 to 14 buds—a show fanatic's dream come true! It opens early in the season, then often displays 3 full rounds of show stalks with 3 to 4 open at once. Sensational sequencing of bloom, with a long, consistent bloom season from each stalk. Plant habits are equally meritorious, with rich blue-green foliage. A great iris, named for the finest iris judge I have had the privilege to mentor over my 20+ years as an AIS judge.

Runners-up: Barry Blyth has reached a new pinnacle in his long journey working with amoenas, with the release of AURA LIGHT ('96). A clean yellow amoena, with stunning contrast between the white standards and the full golden yellow falls. The standards have only a hint of yellow in the base of the midribs. The falls are so deeply saturated that I believe the coloring will be at its best in full blazing Oklahoma sun. AURA LIGHT is an important advancement in this color class. My favorite of the hundreds of reselects which I evaluated in Oregon was one of the highly-advanced blacks, Schreiner Seedling #AA401-A (now named OLD BLACK MAGIC, a '96 introduction). The saturation is as deep as that of HELLO DARKNESS (Schreiner) with waved

horizontal falls. Beards are also black, discreetly tipped mustard. More sultry than shiny, and the overall plant habits and quality of stalks will surely make this seedling yet one more player in the Schreiner family's quest for the "ultimate black".

From the "big boys" back to the "backyard hybridizer", the other seedling recognized here this year is from a relatively unknown hybridizer from Rockford, Illinois: John Knaus 9009 (now named FANCY FILIGREE, a '96 introduction) is a small-flowered tight lilac amoena, blessed with exquisite heavy lace. Imbedded within the lace is a deeper orchid band around the falls. Contrasting yellow beards are a nice complement. Quite tall but slender stalks add to its graceful presentation, with 4 branches with superb placement. Standards a cold white, cool and shimmering with just a hint of icy lilac infusions. Falls are an eloquent shade of clearest lilac, gradually transcending to the deeper band on the edges. A very important offering to a pitifully weak color class; I look forward to its release.

Tall Bearded by Color Group

Reds to Maroons: AUSTRIAN GARNETS (Maryott '91) has become a favorite in the maroon reds, this time with more of a garnet red approach over another fine Maryott maroon which was overlooked, ROYAL PREMIERE. Austrian Garnets has such an intense sheen I swear it surely glows in the dark! Self beards are tipped chocolate, suggesting a black effect. FLORENTINE RED (Sutton '92) is a broad full oxblood red with a velvet sheen. For me it has been difficult to re-establish (thusfar), but it is worth the extra effort—and patience. My favorite of the Schreiner reselect reds was Schreiner Seedling #CC536-1. an extremely large flower, with saturation not as rich as WARRIOR KING (Schreiner) but still appealing. It is somewhat bitoned, with wine-red standards and garnet-red falls. Purple beards are tipped bronze. Magnificent stalks—the best I've seen yet on a red—with four branches and lower rebranch presented in formal candelabra. Lightly waved, with extremely heavy substance. Another red to watch for is VINTNER (Marky Smith '96). Seen in Oregon as Seedling #90-54A, the hybridizer finally convinced me to quit calling it "black". It is a

deep-deep red, but transforms to a sooty black when the sun is overtaken by clouds (see, I was partially right!). Absolutely smooth at the hafts, blocky with a nice full shape. It has a glorious, sophisticated velvet pile and outstanding substance and weather resistance. And, typical of this demanding new hybridizer, the plant habits are flawless, with deep rich foliage producing formidable clumps. CLASSICS: PALMER LEADER (Innerst '82), SUPERMANUEL (Denney '82), VITAFIRE (Schreiner '68).

Browns: We are finally seeing respectable advancement in the honey tones again. AMBER ARTISAN (Williamson '94) is a lovely blend of amber, tan, and gold, slightly lighter in the center of the falls, around golden yellow beards. It is moderately ruffled with light lace. It possesses very good substance, allowing it to withstand the late-season sun. To have such subtle coloring, the effect of WHIPPED HONEY (Jameson '96) is nothing short of flamboyant! It is so heavily laced I stand amazed that each fall is able to unfurl and open correctly, without tearing or twisting. This child of EASTER LACE (Byers) is a cleaner golden honey, with lavender-orchid in the heart of the falls, enlivening the color presentation. It also blooms late in the season here, a great season extender. ARIZONA HOLIDAY (Durrance '88) was one of my "discoveries" at the Portland Convention. Earthy desert tones in a blend of copper and russet, with quite a bit of chocolate infused into the standards. Falls are horizontal, and the smaller flowers have a nice tight look. After receiving a bad rap, my opinion of MOGUL (Ghio '92) changed when I finally saw it in a garden where it was happy! It is an unusual blending of russet, copper, and amber, with orchid infusions in the falls. Deep channeled ruffles give a sense of motion. Flowers were a bit larger than others in this style, and they retain their shape nicely. CLASSICS: ANOINTED (Boushay '75), CHAMBER MUSIC (Williamson '73), CONVERSATION PIECE (D. Palmer '73).

Apricots to Oranges: APRICOT FLUSH (A. Blodgett '93) makes a pleasing companion to Arthur's FULL FASHIONED. APRICOT FLUSH is a different shade of apricot sherbet with strong green influences that give the flowers a fresh look. Compact flowers have tight ruffling and lace. Willowy stalks have

incredible branch placement, with a graceful S-curve with 3 branches in formal candelabra, opening 3 to 4 at once. LOVING THOUGHTS (Carr '88) is a nice, simple medium to deep apricot-orange, complemented with big fat fuzzy deep orange beards. Heavy, leathery substance. MANAGUA (Ghio '94) may be the best of a highly-developed line of breeding for intense oranges. Tall stalks are sturdier than many of its predecessors, and it has superb branching and bud count. Plant habits are also notably improved. CHAMPAGNE WALTZ (Schreiner '94) is an improvement of a personal favorite of mine, Exuberant (Mohr). Standards are a satiny champagne to apricot. Diamond dusted falls are white with a distinct band in the principal color. Moderate sized flowers have a tidy look, and fit nicely on thinner graceful stalks with 3 branches. Similar in color pattern is Paul Black Seedling #916C, with perhaps a richer color (more orange than apricot). The band in the falls is more deeply embedded. Plant habits appear to be an improvement over CHAMPAGNE WALTZ. CLASSICS: FLAMING LIGHT (R. Brown '73), HAPPY HARMONY (D. Palmer '74), SALMON RIVER (O. Brown '71)

Pinks: They just keep coming, don't they? I continue to be impressed with how this color group is evolving. We are to the point now that strong plant habits and dependable performance are imperative—anything less is now unacceptable. A trio of varieties previously reviewed continue to lead this list, for overall quality and sheer elegance. SOCIAL EVENT (Keppel '91) is a rich deep pink, heavily ruffled with an artistic shape. Sensational plant habits, making showy clumps which can be seen clear across the garden. COMING UP ROSES (Gatty '92) has the same saturation of color, but adorned with even more lace. The texture is more diamond dusted, versus the chiffon look of SOCIAL EVENT. Plant habits, overall, aren't as strong as SOCIAL EVENT, but it still meets the criteria for worthy acknowledgment—a fine tribute to a lifetime of work from a discerning hybridizer with a great eye for beauty. SWEET REVENGE (D. Meek '92) is pure unadulterated sex appeal! Currently, my favorite pink. It is a voluptuous full baby ribbon pink, infused with deeper pigmentation, all cupped with extravagant ruffles and lace. Strong

Nebraska-Born Irises

Hardy to -20°

Varigay Gardens 1996 Price List

JOY JOY JOY TB 1996

A beautiful amoena with a wide band of white around the falls. JOY JOY JOY is a charismatic, distinctive Iris that will be a standout in your garden.

Please indicate which one of the following Irises you would like as an extra:

SUNCATCHER TB '92 pictured page 66, *AIS Bulletin* 285

ISN'T THIS SOMETHING TB '93, pictured page 70, *AIS Bulletin* 289

BRINDLED BEAUTY TB '94, pictured page 57, *AIS Bulletin* 293

AUTUMN YEARS TB '95, pictured page 60, *AIS Bulletin* 297

Two beautiful TBs for \$35.00

BB COLLECTION 1993

CALICO KID—seedling #85-19, Venetian pink, striped bishops violet with red beard
CALORIFIC—an amoena with mauve falls and a saturn red beard

CAN DO—an attractive lavender-violet plicata with a black beard—first in International Competition 1995

BRIGHTEN THE CORNER 1995—a very bright yellow that attracts attention across the garden

VERY VARIED—Royal Purple with white streaks and yellow beard

YO—Rhodamine purple with a saturn red beard. Appears to be a red Iris in the garden.

**The above 6 beautiful Border Bearded Irises
Six for \$25.00**

IB COLLECTION 1990

Limited quantity available. For descriptive price list, see page 61, *AIS Bulletin* 297.

**10 beautiful award-winning
Intermediate Irises for \$25.00**

BB COLLECTION 1988

Limited quantity available. For description, see price list page 61, *AIS Bulletin* 297.

**8 beautiful Border-Bearded
Irises for \$25.00**

1994 SDB COLLECTION

We have a collection of beautiful standard dwarfs. To make the collection inclusive of a greater variety of color patterns, we have included two varieties of several years back. WHAT AGAIN, best out-of-region variety, Median Spree in '93, and Barry Blythe's CHANTED, a rose pink with blue beard.

There are eight 1994 introductions with these fascinating names—AGELESS, ABUZZ, ABBA ALIAS ABBA, ACEY DEUCY, TERRA VERDE, VAVOOM, AJAX THE LESS, and OOH LA LA.

We have included with the above, two 1995 introductions—

PERT—a neat little luminata
SEVENTY SEVEN—This little salmon colored Iris had 77 bloom stalks and 50 increases in a two-year clump.

A total of 12 beautiful SDBs for \$25.00

1996 BACKYARD ASSORTMENT

MARIA TORMENA TB—Award of Merit '93
BATIK BB—Runner-up for Dykes
ZINK PINK BB—Knowlton Medal, '93
WHAT AGAIN SDB—Best Out-of-Region Variety, Median Spree, '93
YO - BB—introduced '93, almost red
VAVOOM SDB—introduced '94, beautiful yellow

**The above assortment, various kinds
and various colors - 6 Irises for \$25.00**

FOR HYBRIDIZERS

Seedling 88-75 (Edith Wolford x Aspen Cove)—a beautiful reverse yellow amoena, but it needs a better stalk.

**Free with any order if requested—
\$10.00 if ordered separately**

TERMS OF SALE

All orders will be acknowledged. Shipments will be made in same sequence as orders are received unless otherwise requested. Shipments will be made by USPS on Mondays between July 1 and Aug. 31. Irises listed in collections may not be purchased separately. For orders less than \$50.00, please include \$3.50 to help pay for shipping.

Varigay Gardens

7909 Cornhusker Hwy

Allan Ensminger

Lincoln, NE 68507



JOY JOY JOY

This beautiful amoena with its bright, clear color contrast fills me with joy each spring. JOY JOY JOY was supposed to be a variegated ameona, but it didn't turn out as expected. The above picture is a photograph of a portrait that was painted from memory.

The artist, Bobby Sward, is very talented. If you have a photograph of a favorite Iris, perhaps you would like to hang it as a painting in your home. Bobby Sward has Studio 6, 719 P St., Lincoln, NE 68508.

For more information regarding JOY JOY JOY see the Varigay Garden ad on the adjacent page.

VARIGAY GARDENS

7909 Cornhusker Hwy

Lincoln, NE 68507

Allan Ensminger



CAPTIVE SON (B. Jones '94), SDB
Lankow Medal winner, 1995.
Best In Region Iris at Median Fix in '96,
in Portland, Oregon.





Bennet Jones discovers the familiar faces of his earlier introductions among the extensive plantings at the Rebert Garden during the 1991 National Convention in Washington D.C. This garden lends credence to the theory that "west coast iris do grow well on the east coast". Bennett was awarded the Foster Memorial Plaque by the British Iris Society in 1995.

FRENCH (B. Jones '59), BB, 20"
(((Spindrift x Jeb Stuart) x Courfier) x Lotte Lembrech)
Knowlton Medal 1968.



CAPTIVE SON (B. Jones '94), SDB
Lankow Medol winner, 1995.
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Perry Dyer's Contemporary Views

Perry Dyer



Favorite in the
"Creams to Yellows" category:

LION'S SHARE
(Jameson '92)



"L'Elegante Award"
Runner-up:

FALLEN ANGEL
(D. Meek '95)

continued from page 49

healthy growth habits. The Schreiner family has a reselect comparable in quality and style to the finest pinks on the market: Seedling #BB1680-1 is a satin-smooth pink, with beards a slightly deeper coral. Diamond-dusted and graceful, with extremely tight waved ruffling and light lace. It has a perfect symmetry of ruffling on moderate-sized flowers. Falls are wide and horizontal. Stalks are much better than previous offerings from the Schreiners, very graceful in candelabra style with 3 branches. RARE OCCASION (Gatty '94) is a genteel, muted medley of pinks, suffused with peach, salmon at the shoulders. Flowers are large and broad, yet retain their elegance. Beards are deeper, actually a combination of lavender, red, orange, and coral, providing subtle contrast to the pastel coloring. CLASSICS: BALLET RUFFLES (Rudolph '78), BONBON (Gatty '77), INFATUATION (Corlew '77), STARFROST PINK (Gibson '76).

Lavenders to Violets: KATHLEEN KAY NELSON (Hager '93) leads the group—a classy iris which was named for a classy lady. Kay's absence in the iris world leaves a great void. Kathleen Kay Nelson is a dark violet blue, lightening to near-white in the heart of the flower, surrounding light yellow beards. Deeper texture veins give strength to the flower. Outstanding branching, with thick stalks in a gentle S-curve with 3 branches in modified candelabra placement. MUSES' FIRE (K. Mohr '93) was a pleasant surprise, a somber muted orchid blended with a smoked overlay. Distinctive pink beards provide a totally unexpected contrast. The mysterious effect is reminiscent of its parent, the high-quality SPELLMAKER (Corlew). GYPSY ROMANCE (Schreiner '94) is a rich deep cranberry, deeper and larger than Thriller (Schreiner) with much improved plant habits. The hafts are imprinted with a small portion of smooth chocolate. Stalks are a superb modified candelabra with 4 branches, double budded, with excellent sequencing of bloom and later secondary stalks, further extending its bloom season. Overall form is tighter and improved over the Schreiners' '92 offering of similar nature, MULBERRY PUNCH. ENCHANTED APRIL (Lauer '95), seen in Portland as Seedling #L88-104, is a late-blooming season extender in a blend of lavender, orchid, and mauve, remindful of a muted LADY X (Gatty), topped

off with a stunning sienna beard. Upon full expansion, the flower displays a silvery edge in the style of FULL TIDE (O. Brown) with waved, horizontal falls and smooth chocolate shoulders. A rampant grower, with superb branching (3 branches). Great carrying power in the garden. Larry Lauer is one of the most talented hybridizers at picking an appropriate name. This one may be his best yet, and it was given to a lovely iris. Two seedlings to watch for: Paul Black 88116B was the hit of the Craig garden in Portland. Simply described, it is a larger, improved GRAND WALTZ (Schreiner). A heavily laced orchid to lilac, lighter in the center of the falls, but then embellished with elegant, deeper texture veining. The branching is superlative, with formal candelabra branching which is very consistent from stalk to stalk. Healthy foliage, good increase, and does not overbloom. This will be named LOIS PARRISH (Paul's sister), scheduled for '97 release. The Schreiners had literally dozens of fine reselects to choose from in the lavender-violets, coming from highly-evolved lines. My favorite at the convention was Seedling #CC364-B, a deeper version of LORILEE (Schreiner), with not as much white in the center of the falls. Smooth hafted, with chocolate at the shoulders, extending over to the violet beards. Branching and plant habits are superb. There are 3 branches displayed well on modified candelabra stalks. CLASSICS: ACTRESS (Keppel '76), DATEBOOK (Corlew '74), PRETTY KAREN (Hamblen '73).

Deep Violets to Blacks: BLACK TIE AFFAIR (Schreiner '93) is among the blackest available, with an inky finish and jet black beards to add to the intensity of the flower. Its moderate size has understated waving versus the deep dramatic ruffles of some of its contemporaries—a nice change of pace, and a nice effect. Great stalks, with 4 branches, double-budded. MOUNTAIN MAJESTY (Ghio '95), seen in Oregon as Seedling #88-20C2, is remindful of the great classic, DUSKY CHALLENGER (Schreiner), but is actually bred from one of the Schreiners' overlooked dark beauties from the same era, DARKSIDE. Well named, for it is a tall, stately, (yes) majestic deep violet self, with no other colors to interrupt the mood. Absolutely huge flowers, shapely and ruffled, are kept high and mighty with telephone pole stalks. Branching is simply

astounding, carrying 4 branches and spur, often opening 3 at once. Yet there's backup buds there, enough to extend its bloom season greatly. To add to its grandeur, throw in a satin finish and outstanding substance. Surely *the* overlooked Schreiners release this past decade is INDIGO PRINCESS ('92). A full violet in the tradition of Dykes Medalist TITAN'S GLORY (Schreiner), with perhaps a bit more indigo in its makeup. Thick husky stalks produce show stalk after show stalk. Consistency is the key. Thick, big, husky foliage is purple-based, hearty, with strong increase. Moderate to deeply pleated ruffling. Good color saturation and carrying power. VIRGINIA BAUER (Richardson '93) is another variety that has been overlooked. It is a swirling violet with indigo blue beards, like an updated version of SILENT MAJESTY (Hamblen). The saturation is intense, and it has a royal blue mink finish that adds character. Very sophisticated with even deeper texture veins in the falls that give greater intensity to its carrying power. Healthy, purple-based foliage. We have two more Schreiner seedlings to continue the legacy of a great bloodline: Schreiner Seedling #DD483-1 is a magnificent tight round deep blue-violet in the style of STARINA (Schreiner). Standards are somewhat open, showing off their ruffling, but hold well with strong midribs. Falls are clean at the hafts, rounded, and nearly horizontal. The ruffling is symmetrical and deep. Moderate-sized flowers are displayed on rather tall stalks, double-budded, with 3 well-spaced branches. Not just another purple; it has distinction. It dances. I hope, in spite of its modest flower size, it makes the Schreiners' "final cut" and reaches the wings of introduction. Schreiner Seedling #DD240-1 is an extension of their high-quality black line to watch for. It blooms earlier (a definite plus in the Midwest). It brings back memories of the great classic, DUSKY DANCER (Luihn), with its velvet falls and jet black beards. Standards are so tight they're nearly conical. The flower is about 1 inch larger than HELLO DARKNESS. Tall, strong stalks carry 4 well-spaced, long branches. CLASSICS: ROYAL ALLURE (Plough '77), SOUL MUSIC (Meek '78), STORM CENTER (Schreiner '79).

Blues: WATER BALLET (Ghio '93) was a pleasant surprise. In a world of near-perfect blues, it's amazing that a hybridizer can still create one new and unique, in a common color

such as blue. Remindful of its papa, ALTRUIST (Schreiner) in color style, being actually a blending of azure blues deeply swirled into ivory in its heart around soft cream beards. Form is simply impeccable. The flowers shimmer and glisten in the sun, and are set in motion with deep bubble ruffling. MUSIC MAESTRO (Blyth '90) is a pulsating ruffled ultramarine shade of blue, complete with self beards. Flowers are large, with broad, nearly overlapping falls. A trio of Schreiner selections continues the evolution of a legendary line of work: CAPTAIN'S JOY (Schreiner '94) exhibits the deep-sea-blue approach, complete with outstanding branching, bud count, and plant habits. The timing of its buds leads to a long season of bloom. Its flowers are consistently high-quality through the duration of its bloom season. The softer blue line, in the tradition of TIDE'S IN (Schreiner) is DELTA BLUES (Schreiner '94), probably the finest of their azure blues released to date. Lavish ruffling is deeply chiseled into the round flowers, rippling and graceful. The architecture of the flower is flawless, as are its plant habits and show stalk branching. The color is fully saturated but cool and crisp. A reselect to look forward to is Schreiner Seedling #DD69-1. It is a billowing Altruist type, but with a "looser", airy look than the tight round structure of WATER BALLET. A shade darker, close to RAPTURE IN BLUE (Schreiner) in intensity, but with the Altruist blending of glistening white bleeding from the white beards. Floriferous, with excellent foliage. Stalks have superb modified candelabra branching, with 3 branches. Refreshing and pristine. CLASSICS: ADDED PRAISE (Boushay '76), REGENTS' ROW (Denney '79), SPACE BLAZER (Gibson '76), VICTORIA FALLS (Schreiner '77).

Whites (and Near Whites): The best seen in Oregon was ARCTIC EXPRESS (Gatty '96), seen in the gardens under Seedling #X60-3. Tall and stately in its presentation, it has a "finished" look to it that, frankly, I always found lacking in its parent, CHRISTMAS (Gatty). The color is chaste, absolutely pure, right down to its self beards. The standards are domed and strong; the falls wide, rounded, and flare just enough to have strongest impact from the tall stalks, visually. Incredible branching, bud count, and bloom sequencing. It has been a long time since we've seen a pure white on

the grand scale of the classics such as PIETY (Branch), WINTER OLYMPICS (O. Brown), or FLIGHT OF ANGELS (Terrell). This new white just might be the one. LADY BIRD JOHNSON (Mahan '96) is a lovely new contribution to the quest for blue-bearded whites. Although technically this is a pale blue, it nonetheless conveys the effect of the cool whites. Powder blue beards (deeper at the base) add to the ensemble. Ruffling is very delicate, close but "shallow", a nice change in style from the deep bubble-ruffles our eyes have become accustomed to. Diversity is the key to an interesting garden! ALL AMERICAN (Byers '92) is actually a pale-pale reverse amoena in lilac, with the standards just a half-tone deeper than the icy white falls. The flower is contrasted with a shrimp to tangerine beard. Wide, ruffled, and early-blooming. Nope, no horns or flounces or other widgets. Don't know if it reblooms. Still, Monty knew how to breed beauty into "normal" flowers too! His absence from the iris world is an immense void. Such a talented artist of a hybridizer. HILO SURF (Durrance '90) was another "discovery" for me. Rather large flowers are a pure sea-foam white, with frothy billowing ruffles all over. The form is different—rather long in length of falls and not flaring (i.e., hanging!). Yet I kept being drawn back to it. It has appeal, and is not offensive in form. Actually, rather stylish. No cookie-cutter, fat, round, overlapping stereotype here. The flower has quality, plus the magic "D-Word", *Distinctiveness*. CLASSICS: EMMANUEL (Boushay '79), SILVER SHOWER (Schreiner '74), VALENTINA (Spence '73), WHITE LIGHTNING (Gatty '74).

Creams to Yellows: The new star is OVERJOYED (Gatty '94). No picture can capture its subtle nuances. No written description could ever convey the essence of its sheer beauty. Technically, a yellow amoena, but the blending gradations of tones between its cream-white and yellow are so artfully melted together that the effect is actually a blend. The broad round flowers have substance like wax, the ruffling deeply chiseled marble. You look and just let out a big, innocent sigh! Indelible elegance. Unforgettable. ALL TOGETHER (Gatty '92) uses a much more direct approach in seeking your attention. A bright clear fully saturated light to medium yellow, intensified with a deep yellow beard. Broad and blocky, from the great, overlooked HOLLYWOOD

BLONDE (Gatty). ABBEY ROAD (Silverberg '94) was another one of those pleasant surprises in Oregon, yet looked even better here in Oklahoma the next year at a show in Edmond. A very unusual presentation of color—basically a reverse yellow bitone with hardly a band on the falls at all. The unusual trait is that, instead of the warm leathery look usually associated with this color pattern, it is a cool glistening texture, silken and shimmering. Simply huge flowers hold together admirably. From “the Doo Dah guy”, the talented new hybridizer from St. Jo, MO wound up with another hit in LION'S SHARE (Jameson '92). Of the kazillion varieties I viewed at the Portland Convention, this billowing blend of whipped cream, ivory, and light yellow wound up being my pick for the Out-of-Region Cup. What an incredible garden iris—a vision of health and cleanliness. A charming new golden-yellow was WAKE-UP DIANNE (K. Mohr '94). Individual flowers were rounded and shapely. It was brilliant and appeared sunfast. Growth habits and branching were inconsistent, but we'll see—certainly worth another look. REDEFINE SHINE (Burseen '92) is a screaming yellow-gold possessing a trait I've wanted to breed for years in this color: lace. Reminiscent of an oldie that was overlooked in its time, WINNING SPIRIT (Blaylock) but, thankfully, appears to be more sunfast than its predecessor. The one specimen I saw had a clubby stalk with only 2 branches, and it was so heavily laced that some flowers had a difficult time opening correctly. Nonetheless, all kinds of potential here for the breeder. Ah! I guess patience really is a virtue, for I was finally lucky enough (persistent/pushy enough!) to acquire and bloom SUNCATCHER (Ensminger '92). Truly the *prettiest* yellow I've ever seen. Compact rounded flowers are lemon to medium yellow, opening up from enchanting green buds. Shorter 30" stalks are in perfect proportion for the tidy flowers. My only complaint this year, on its maiden bloom in Oklahoma, was that it kept raining on my crosses! CLASSICS: LEMON CROWN (O. Brown '76), MING DYNASTY (Moldovan '73), ORMOLU (Schafer '73), SHINING LIGHT (Gatty '73), STARRING ROLE (D. Palmer '73).

***Plicatas*:** CLASSIC LOOK (Schreiner '92) is my favorite of the blue plics, to date. The white base is pure, pristine,

unadulterated, without plicata markings drifting over into the centers of the petals (this includes the standards). The plicating is a carefully laid stitching in a soft, eloquent lobelia blue, with markings just a touch thicker in the standards. Stylearms are a deeper blue, pulling everything together. Having observed this new plic in 3 states, 3 climate zones, in 3 seasons, the branching has been somewhat inconsistent. However, outstanding show placement tends to be the norm, rather than the exception. **DELICATE TOUCH** (Hager '91) is another sleeper. Basically a very soft lilac plic in the color of **RHONDA FLEMING**, but adorned



Perry Dyer

with moderate lace. Form isn't as splendid or refined as **RHONDA**, but still most acceptable. The color saturation is so subtle you might tend to miss it. But with that luxurious lace, you won't! Another subtle "barely-plic", this time in blue, in the tradition of the great old-timer, **RIBBON ROUND** (Tompkins) is **WINNER TAKE ALL** (Ernst '93). The flowers are broad and cleanly colored, with most of its blue marking concentrated in the heart of the flower, in the stylearms. A pleasant surprise. After the stunning success of the debut of the dark

luminatas, **MIND READER** and **SPIRIT WORLD**, Keith Keppel has toned things down a bit with **FANCY WOMAN** (Keppel '95). It is a French lilac to mauve-pink luminata, marbled into a strange, lovely mother-of-pearl base. Bright reddish-orange beards sneak out from an ivory luminata patch. Very early blooming, but the generous bud count guarantees a long, happy bloom season. A dark luminata bred from an entirely different approach from the **Dynamic Duo** above, is **BALTIC STAR** (Stahly '94). It is a stark deep purple (black to the eye, especially in full sun), with a breathtaking burst of pure white radiating from the beards. Form isn't as wide and stylish as the Keppel luminatas, but still very

attractive. I can't wait to see the results, once it starts "socializing" with the Keppel line. Two colorful plicatas from Duane and Joyce Meek were popular in Oregon—and they're different enough in style that only the worst of the brain-dead gardeners could confuse them. BRAZEN BEAUTY (Duane '94) is a wildly extroverted creamy-pink plic, unashamedly sanded and polka-dotted in bright rosy pink. A different look, complete with exotic deep ruffling and lace-lace-lace. RAIN MAN (Joyce, '94) is not quite so daring, with blowsy, deeply pleated ruffling instead of the lace. A clean white based plic, branded with wide raspberry pink plicating so thick it appears as a band. Both varieties are fun; both are worthy. CHINA NIGHTS (Mahan, R. '90) is a unique chocolate to redwood, with just a flash of white emerging from the center of the falls, dissected by a bold belly stripe extending from bronze beards. Moderate-sized flowers are held up well on rather thin, willowy, graceful stalks. Another warm plicata that showed great potential was HEARTHSTONE (Ernst '93). A copper-russet to chocolate on white plic, much in the style of the great CAYENNE CAPERS (Gibson), but then a heavy flush of gold in the standards' midribs. Very unusual black appears up and down the stalks and in the spathes, like Keppel's *luminata*, SPIRIT WORLD. Simply presented, with only light waving—no lace or other clutter. Commendable plant habits, with good increase. And lastly, a neat new plic from a rising star from the Czech Republic: Paul Nejedlo Seedling #RRSMQIC-90-1. Different and avant garde, unlike anything I've seen to date in the USA. Standards are a pale blue, lightly airbrushed with deep blue washing and plicating. Horizontal falls are a white base, then heavily peppered, sanded, and airbrushed irregularly in a deeper blue and pansy purple. Moderately heavy ruffling and crimping. A tight, compact, tidy look, with superb form and substance. Watch for great things from this creative, talented new hybridizer from abroad. CLASSICS: LOOP THE LOOP (Schreiner '75), MICHIGAN PRIDE (Berndt '76), OSAGE BUFF (Gibson '73), ROUNDUP (Keppel '74), SOCIALITE (Keppel '74).

Amoenas, Reverse Amoenas, and Neglectas: DRESDEN DANCER (Knaus '90) was very

consistent in each of the Portland gardens in which it was guested. A clean, perky lilac amoena with a subtle red beard and light lace. Flowers are small for the height of the stalk (as with Byers' Space Ager, CONJURATION). But the stalks are lean and willowy, creating an attractive overall effect. Similar, and from the same hybridizer, NEW GLORY (Knaus '90) is a blue amoena with a more distinctive bright carrot red beard. The falls have a suggestion of an even deeper band. Good clean color contrast, with a glistening diamond-dusted finish. From a brilliant cross: (FIREWATER X FLAMINGO BLUES). ASTRID CAYEUX (Cayeux '91), from France, is a most elegant lavender to lilac amoena, with white beards tipped carrot. Domed standards have a flush of lilac at the base of the midribs. Falls are horizontal and well shaped. DELTAPLANE (Cayeux '91) is zany, and perhaps some folks won't like it (of course, you know I do!). A medium to deep blue amoena (approaching neglecta). The falls are so horizontal and ruffled they tend to pop back up. Outstanding plant habits. Strong healthy stalks carry 3 branches. Although it already has a great name, another "descriptive" possibility could have been "Skirt Alert"! JUST MAGIC (Blyth '90) is a gigantic pale reverse blue amoena, broad and determined on thick well-branched, very tall stalks. Blocky, classical form. The falls are a chalky pure white. Very sophisticated. Schreiner Seedling #CC173-1 is a rich neglecta in the manner of PROUD TRADITION, but the falls have a unique variation in tones, with the deepest blue in the center of the falls. Attractive chocolate shoulders are smooth (no haft marks). Substance is leathery. Schreiner Seedling #CC1208-1 is a brave attempt at red, white, and blue, a la REGAL AFFAIR (Shoop). Standards are well shaped, in white, with only hints of blue. Falls are a rich deep blue, with an intricate network of white veins exploding from the red beards. In a new twist, this one is adorned with lace. Very floriferous; it makes a showy clump. Schreiner Seedling #DD420-1 is a smaller-flowered version of PROUD TRADITION, this time with lace. A totally new look in true neglectas. Standards are a clean light to medium blue, noticeably devoid of the deeper flush in the midribs, so common in this color pattern. Horizontal to slightly flaring falls are a lustrous deep inky blue, blessed with the PROUD TRADITION velvet sheen.

Exceptional stalks, with 4 perfectly placed modified candelabra branches. Whopper plants, very healthy foliage. The finishing touch is a halo around the falls, in the same shade as the blue of the standards. With the lace, the flower dances! CLASSICS: PRESIDENT FARNSWORTH (Muhlestein '75), SKYLAB (Sexton '74), TWIST AND SHOUT (Blyth '74).

Bicolors: RUTH BLACK (Black '96) is a beautiful new pink and lavender color-gem which has survived the nasty springs central Oklahoma has experienced several years in a row now. Broad, huge flowers are tight structurally, adorned with just the right amount of ruffling and lace. The falls have a fascinating changeable taffeta blending of various lilacs and lavenders, capped off with stunning red-orange beards. True to its Hamblen/Opal Brown heritage, this is a very late bloomer, with the first blooms debuting after many tall beardededs have "called it quits" for the year. COLETTE THURILLET (Cayeux '90) is a muted, almost surreal blending of many colors, ending up as a bicolor, technically. Nearly conical standards are a subdued apricot, heavily flushed orchid-violet in the midribs. Flaring to horizontal falls are shot silk in orchid, plum, pink, and mauve, with a buff band and bright carrot beards. It is smooth at the hafts, but has tan shoulders. Delicate ruffling and a touch of lace. TEMPTING (Ghio '92) is a stunning pink and black attempt, with clear medium pink standards atop bold wine-purple falls, narrowly edged in pink. Blazing red beards in the middle of it all. Very colorful. COLLECTOR'S ART (Shoop '91) is a refreshing reverse bicolor, with medium orchid-rose standards over pink grapefruit falls, touched off with a band in the color of the standards, showcased with dazzling shrimp beards. Form is very simplistic, but the plant habits and stalks (3 branches) were impressive. Excellent contrast between the standards and falls. MAVIS WAVES (Jameson '94) carries on the tradition of the Hamblen bloodline in a combination like ADVENTURESS (Hamblen): Pink standards, lavender-blue falls, complete with one of those "mixed" beards (tangerine at the base, heavily tipped blue, giving a visual effect of raspberry). As with ADVENTURESS, it has tall formal candelabra stalks, blooms in the latter half of the season, and has a haunting smoke overlay through the entire flower. I had

to go home and pull out the checklist to get the scoop on the next one: CREGRINA (Maureen Foster R. '90) is an English origination that, as far as I can tell, has not been marketed in the USA yet. Basically a yellow and lavender bicolor. The standards are swirled and closed, in a blending of golden yellow and cream in the style of GOLD TRIMMINGS (Schreiner). Horizontal, broad falls are a soft orchid-lilac, gradually transcending to a lighter shade in the center of the falls. A $\frac{3}{8}$ " tan band on the falls is embedded in soft lace and gentle ruffling. Smooth at the hafts, with a gold beard complementing deep gold shoulders. The flower has a thick leathery look that is most intriguing. The flower opens clean, but then gracefully fades to an even prettier color combo as the flower expands to its full size. Spectacular formal candelabra branching, with 4 branches in perfect placement. Watch for what will surely be one of the most beautiful of all bicolors, Ghio Seedling #87-129W3. The coloring is a mix between the great HEATHER BLUSH (Hamner) and SWEET MUSETTE (Schreiner). Standards are a soft apricot-pink. Falls are an elegant lilac to rose-mauve, finished with a bright shrimp beard. It possesses a translucent captivating satin sheen throughout. Broad and full in form, but still artistic and graceful. A network of deeper texture veins, in the style of HEATHER BLUSH, adds depth and charm. Swirling ruffles throughout. Strong stalks with 3 branches. Melodious! CLASSICS: BETTY SIMON (Hamblen '76), RINGO (Shoop '79), TEQUILA SUNRISE (McWhirter '78).

Potpourri (or, just too confused and mixed up to attempt to put in a color class!): WITCHING (Blyth '94) is certainly well named. Downright spooky in its coloring, with a bold black beard adding to the mood. Clean light blue standards are starkly contrasted by a bizarre concoction of gold, tan, and lilac falls, all mixed up, yet smoothly applied. If there's a color chart reading that accurately depicts the coloration, I have to see it to believe it. Extremely early bloomer. Very floriferous, although branching is sometimes inconsistent. Excellent plant habits, with thinner (but not wimpy or watery) foliage. GLORY BE (Hamblen-Meek '95) is one of those "gold mine" parents which we are fortunate to have today because of caring friends such as the Meeks. A cornerstone

in Melba's later work; the possibilities are endless in hybridizing. Standards are a subtle tan, fairly heavily infused with a muted mauve. Simple creamy yellow falls have a big fat bushy brick red beard. A stunning contrast. ISLAND DANCER (Shoop '91) is a perfect example of the innovative work the late George Shoop pulled out of a small backyard seedling patch. Deep brown standards are enlivened with intense flushing in rose and orchid. Smooth velvety honey-tan falls make a marvelous contrast. Had enough? Bright red beards! Zowie! Notably improved branching and bud count from previous releases in this bloodline. My, how we will miss the King of Color! Technically a blue amoena, MARBRE BLEU (Cayeux '93) is just too mixed up to stereotype into a color category. Absolutely whopper-flowers have white standards with a touch of blue at the edges and at the base. Falls are a white base, then heavily marbled in brilliant sapphire blue, with the marbling intensifying at the edges. Thick carrot-red beards sit amidst the white ocean spray. Husky stalks can withstand the pressure of the huge flowers, and there are 3 to 4 branches, well

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placed in modified candelabra position, double-budded. A very heavy bloomer that may very well bloom-out in the temperate climates. PRISM VIEW (Ernst '92) is a mesmerizing blend of pastels. Much more subtle than its relatives such as AFTERNOON DELIGHT, COMPETITIVE EDGE, and DIFFERENT WORLD (Ernst). It changes colors in different degrees of sunlight and different angles in the clump. Fascinating; a great name! Muted tan, amber, lilac, and orchid outlaid delicately for a serene picture. BURNT CRISP (Burseen '93) is a wild and wooly plicata derivative. Mocha standards are laced; horizontal falls are brick red to chocolate and wine blended, with howling (plicata) hafts. Huge flowers. The blossoms open quite well, even though the falls are edged in quilled KILT LILT (Gibson) lace. Branching could be a bit under the weather; we'll see. The fair state of Utah may never be the same. And the last shall be... TIGER HONEY (Kasperek '94) is the first release from this enthusiastic new hybridizer, and is a major advancement in the work Allen Ensminger began with the broken color pattern types (I refer to them as "splish-splashes"). Base color is bone, but then it is irregularly, irreverently mottled, streaked, and blotched with butterscotch, honey, and golden yellow. Like it or not, the zoo has arrived, folks—*deal with it!* (Personally, I fall into the "greatest fan" category—Mr. K is fresh and innovative in his approach to breeding and marketing, but dead serious about his work—he'll go far!). CLASSICS: GYPSY BELLE (Hamner '74), PEARL ISLAND (Muhlestein '75), PISTACHIO (Ghio '74).

Space Age: STINGER (Byers '94), previously reviewed, deserves another mention. It is truly in class, as the world's first Space Age Standard Dwarf Bearded. Unsuspecting, innocent honey plicata blossoms suddenly have purple horns poking up from the beards. *Wow!* ALL AFLUTTER (Byers '94) is in the style of the sensuous MESMERIZER (Byers). A bit taller, with stronger, thicker stalks, this white doesn't have the high-drama adornments of MESMERIZER, but the flounces are still there, and very consistent. A beautiful iris in its own right. From a new hybridizer, we saw Knudtson Seedling #89-62-H in Portland. A tidy blue amoena displays imposing white flounces. No red in the beard whatsoever. Flexuous stalks like CONJURATION, but they hold the smaller flowers up very well. Very different. 


New Iris Book Planned

on Pacific Coast Native Iris

by Adele Lawyer

YOU WILL BE PLEASED TO KNOW THAT A BOOK ON Pacific Coast Iris is in preparation, which will be sponsored by the Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris (SPCNI), a Section of the American Iris Society. Timber Press has expressed an interest in publishing it. A quality book is planned, with pages approximately 7 by 10 inches in size, illustrated with line drawings and as many as 30 color prints.

We are currently assembling three sample chapters to send to the publisher for approval. Roy Davidson is doing the chapter on History, and we are writing up the Hybridizing and Culture Sections. David and Evelyne Lennette will serve as Editors, and George Waters is Photography Chairman. Other chapters will cover Classification and Distribution of the Species, Diseases and Pests, and Use in Garden Design.

We have written to contacts in Europe, Australia and New Zealand for input on culture and hybridization, and now we are asking selected United States and Canadian representatives to help round out the survey. 

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Dr. Loomis

Memorial Iris Trial Gardens

by Russ Sacker

HERE ARE GARDENS HIGH IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS at the base of Pikes Peak in Colorado Springs, Colorado where many wonderful hybridizers send their flowers to see how the plants do at the high altitude. Some irises do very well and some have difficulty adjusting from their former homes.


I would like to give you some information on how many of these plants did in the 1995 season and so I will list them by the different classes and the various plantings.

Beginning with the three year tall bearded irises, the plants that did the best were the following: NIGHT FLAME (Aitken) *Dr. Loomis Award* winner, 3103-7 (Innerst), 83-46-3 (Hedgecock), 84-102-2 (Hedgecock), 85-201-1 (Hedgecock), and BLUE SPARKLER (Steinheimer). Three year standard dwarf bearded: ORANGE TIGER (B. Jones) *Dr. Loomis Award* winner, CANDY QUEEN (Niswonger), NUT RUFFLES (Lankow), ORANGE DAZZLER (B. Jones), and OREGOLD (B. Jones). Three year miniature tall bearded: MINI WABASH (Probst) and REMINISCENCE (Mahan). Three year boarder bearded: 390-A (Bianco) *Dr. Loomis Award* winner, CONSISTENT ZEE (D. Miller), CT-1-1 (Pinegar), and ALICIA ANN (Pinegar). Three year intermediate bearded: DARK WATERS (Aitken), AMIELA BEDIOLA (Innerst), and BUNNICULA (Innerst).

Then we go on to the plants that have been with us for two years. Two year TB: SHERRY RENEE (Burseen) *Dr. Loomis Award* winner, 87BZX37SA1 (Probst), ART NOUVEAU (Messick), LF-737-D (Rogers), and LY84-32-2 (R. Lyons). Two year BB: FRISKY FILLY (Willott) and HEATHER SUZANNE (Jorgensen). Two year IB: SUNSHINE BOY (F. Foster), 91-351 (Willott), BUCKEYE BELLE (Willott), and RADIANT BURST (Willott). Two year MDB: PINK BLINK

(Aitken). Two year SDB: BALLET SLIPPERS (Willott) *Dr. Loomis Award* winner, 88-35-3 (Chapman), ICE AND INDIGO (Willott), MOONLIGHTING (Willott), and PELE (Aitken).

A few one year plants did well enough to be mentioned but were not high enough to be considered for award winners. One year TB: CUTTING EDGE (Ghio), L89-27-1 (Lauer), 84-3-1A (Jorgensen), 89-417-1 (Chapman), and FROM A DISTANCE (Ernst). One year BB: SUNNY GLOW (Aitken), and M87-7 (Messick). One year SIB: SENECA BLUE ROSE (Borglum). One year SDB: ADVANCE DESIGN (B. Jones), and TICKLED PEACH (Lankow). One year MTB: BILLIE THE BROWNIE (Burton). One year IB: TETON VALLEY (Palmer), and 93-4 (Stahly).

These are just a few of the irises that bloomed in the gardens and it is our hope that some of them are the ones that you like. Next year's growth could provide us with other irises doing just as well and maybe even better. 

*Russ Eacker is the Director of the Dr. Loomis Memorial Trial Gardens,
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St Clair, MO 63077-2905

Wichita Area Iris Club

James Winzer, President
678-B Frisco
Augusta, KS 67010

Region 19***Garden State Iris Society***

Joseph J. Griner, President
25 Mill Chase Rd.
Southampton, NJ 08808-9640

Region 20***Elmohr Iris Society***

Frank J. Foster, President
15 North Walnut St
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

Loomis Iris Society

Emere Swartzendruber, President
702 South 13th St,
Rocky Ford, CO 81067-2132

Northern Colorado Iris & Daylily Club

Robert Howard, President
631 Mansfield Dr
Ft Collins, CO 80525

Region 21***Cedar Valley Iris & Daylily Society***

Barrett Stoll, President
999 310th St
Atalissa, IA 52720

Dawson County Iris Society

Glenn Knapp, President
345 North 12th St.
Broken Bow, NE 68822-1517

Elkhorn Valley Iris Society

Carolan D. Lingenfelter, President
1108 N. 9th St.
Norfolk, NE 68701

Greater Omaha Iris Society

Sally A. Bergei, President
9042 Jones St.
Omaha, NE 68114-5044

Lincoln Iris Society

Karen Rooney, President
5120 Spruce St.
Lincoln, NE 68516

Sioux Empire Iris Society

Tova Johnson, President
29185 468th Ave.
Centerville, SD 57014-6317

Siouxland Iris Society

Arnold Koekkoek, President
38 7th St. NE
Sioux Center, IA 51250

Trails West Iris Society

Julie Feil, President
710 O St
Gering, NE 69341

Region 22***Central Arkansas Iris Society***

M.D. Faith, President
210 West Pleasure
Searcy, AR 72143

Lawton Area Friends of Iris Society

Marjorie J. Puckett, President
2707 NW Arlington Ave
Lawton, OK 73505-6223

Mountain View Iris Society

Lacy E. Hagood, Jr, President
6307 Irwin Ave
Lawton, OK 73505

Norman Area Iris Society

Helen Jones, President
1612 West Park Place
Oklahoma City, OK 73106-4654

North Central Iris Society

Beatrice A. Williams, President
4345 Ritchie St
Enid, OK 73703

Northern Oklahoma Iris Society

Ray & Dorothy Cantwell, President
320 N 9th St
Ponca City, OK 74601

Oklahoma Iris Society

Francis W. McVicker, President
RT #3, Box 10K
Kingfisher, OK 73750

River Valley Iris Society

Beverly Tollison, President
116 Blue JaY Lane
Russellville, AR 72801

Rolling Hills Iris Society

Paul W. Gossett, President
1708 E. 53rd St.
Tulsa, OK 74105-5726

Sooner State Iris Society

Greer Holland, President
4521 NE 55th St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73121-6024

Southwest Oklahoma Iris Society

MaryAnn Holman, President
505 South First St.
Walters, OK 73572-2209

Tulsa Area Iris Society

Patricia K. Tanton, President
414 N. McKinley
Sand Springs, OK 74063-7556

White County Iris Society

LaVera Burkett, President
1002 Randall Drive
Searcy, AR 72143-3832

Region 23***Albuquerque Aril Society***

Karen Bergamo, President
2508 Punta de Vista NE
Albuquerque, NM 87112

Albuquerque Iris Guild

Barbara J. Hilton, President
5407 Cimarron Road NW
Albuquerque, NM 87120

Lea County Iris Society

Kerry D. Romine, President
1801 Rojo
Hobbs, NM 88240

Mesilla Valley Iris Society

Edgar R. Garrett, President
6805 Cottontail Lane
Las Cruces, NM 88005

New Mexico Iris Society

Scott W. Jordan, President
3500 Avenida Charada NW
Albuquerque, NM 87107-2604

Pecos Valley Iris Society

Pegi Naranjo, President
P.O. Box 477
Roswell, NM 88202

Roswell Iris Society

Lenora Rogers, President
3008 Barcelona
Roswell, NM 88201

Santa Fe Iris Society

Bill Huey, President
Box 381
Tesuque, NM 87574

Blount Iris & Daylily Society

DeLois Dunn, President
2395 Skyball Rd
Hayden, AL 35079

Cullman Iris & Daylily Society

Michael Hartwig, President
RT #1, Box 367 B
Falkville, AL 35622

Huntsville Chapter of A.I.S.

Scott W. Grant, President
561 Charity Lane
Hazel Green, AL 35750

Region 24***Birmingham Area Iris Society***

Lucille Stuman Jones, President
245 Roebuck Drive
Birmingham, AL 35215

North Mississippi Lakes Iris Society

James W. Kuykendall, Jr, President
RT #2, Box 130
Oakland, MS 38948

Guest Iris Request

THE GREATER PORTLAND IRIS SOCIETY WILL HOST THE Society for Japanese Iris Convention in Portland, Oregon, June, 1999. Hybridizers are invited to send guest irises of recent introductions or seedlings under serious consideration. Ship to:

Terry Aitken
608 NW 119th Street
Vancouver, WA 98685

The following information should accompany each plant: Hybridizer's name and address, variety name or seedling number, classification, height and color, year of introduction if applicable. Guest plants will be accepted until September 30, 1996, with a limit of 3 plants per cultivar. AIS Convention policy regarding guest iris Code of Ethics will be adhered to. No guest plant will be traded, sold or hybridized.

Rent Slide Sets from the American Iris Society

AIS Slide Sets available for 1996:

The Newest in Irises: 1992 – 1996 Introductions. Mostly TBs, but contains other types.

Recent Award Winners: HM and AM Winners, 1992 – 1995

The Popularity Poll: Favorite 100 irises as reflected by the 1996 AIS Symposium

Types other than Tall Bearded: Bearded and beardless, arranged in blooming sequence.

Reliables: Mostly past award winners of various types — especially suited for newer iris societies and garden clubs.

1994 Portland Iris Convention

1995 York Iris Convention

Iris Trivia: This is a small set of slides and questions that can be used for a fun and informative meeting. (Use of all questions and slides takes at least one hour.)

To Order: Requests for slides should be made well in advance of requested date, preferably six to eight weeks. If optional, specify alternate sets and/or dates. Clearly *print* name and mailing address to whom slides are to be sent. Rental fee is \$7.50 per set, payable to AIS. Only one set allowed for any request date. AIS Affiliate Societies are entitled to one free set per calendar year. Slide sets are to be returned next day after viewing by *Priority Mail*. Send check with request to:

Mike Moller, Slides Committee Chairman Phone: (303) 797-8341
3750 W. Arrowhead Rd.
Littleton, CO 80123

Section Slides Available:

The various Sections of AIS also have slide sets available for rent. These feature irises of each respective group. Rental fee is \$5.00 per set, unless noted otherwise. Requests for these slide sets should be submitted as follows:

Arils and Arilbreds: Order from Clay H. Osborne, 47806 Calle Fiesta, Indio, CA 92201. Rental fee \$7.50. Check to Aril Society International.

Dwarf: Dorothy Willott, 26231 Shaker Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122-7111. Check to Dwarf Iris Society.

Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS): Contact Joan Cooper, 212 West Country Rd. C, St. Paul, MN 55113. Rental fee \$7.50. Check to HIPS.

Japanese: Order from John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053. Check to Japanese Iris Society.

Louisiana: Order from Dalton Durio, Route 7, Box 43, Opelousas, LA 70570. Check to Society for Louisiana Irises. Rental fee is \$10.00.

Medians: Contact Terry Aitken, 608 NW 119th St, Vancouver WA 98685. Check to MIS.

Rebloomers: Contact Olive Rice-Waters, 1914 Napa Ave, Berkley, CA 94707. Check to Reblooming Iris Society. Rental fee is \$7.50.

Siberians: Order from Thomas Abrego, P.O. Box 693, Newberg, OR 97132. Check to Society for Siberian Irises.

Species: Several sets available. Order from Helga Andrews, 11 Maple Ave, Sudbury MA 01776. Check to SIGNA.

Spurias: To order, contact Patricia Brooks, 102 Jefferson Lane, Ladson, SC 29456. Check to Spuria Iris Society.

American Iris Society

Official Storefront

\$20.00 *The World of Irises*

Highly recommended! 32 pages of full color. Edited by Warburton and Hamblen, 34 contributors and authors including international authorities. Published in 1978 and most authoritative book on all phases of irises. Scientific and popular. 6" x 9" hard bound cloth cover, 526 pages.

\$6.00 *Handbook for Judges and Show Officials*

\$2.50 ea., or *Basic Iris Culture.* Pamphlets. Great information
\$15.00 for 25 for new iris growers. Ideal for clubs or shows.

\$3.00 *AIS Bulletins: Back Issues* (not all issues available)

\$10.00 *1994 AIS Membership Book.*

A complete listing of members of AIS, including addresses.

\$10.00 ea. *Check Lists: 1939, 1949, 1959, & 1969*
 Reprint. Soft cover.

\$17.00 *Check List, 1979*
 Reprint. Ten-year compilation of registrations 1970 - 1979.

\$15.00 *Check List, 1989*
 Ten-year compilation of registrations 1980 - 1989.

\$6.00 ea. *Registrations and Introductions:*
 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, and 1995.

\$2.50 *Bronze 50th Anniversary Medals*
 The AIS 50th Anniversary medal in antiqued bronze. Suitable for pendants, show prizes, and special awards.

Special! While They Last!

\$2.00 ea, or 5 for \$5.00

1996 Calenders

75th Anniversary Collection

\$25.00

Commemorative Medal

Solid Silver, 1 ½ inches across. Only 500 struck.

\$3.00

Poster

\$7.50

Bulletin

\$5.00

AIS Lapel Pins

AIS logo in blue & green on silver plated pin ½" x ⅝" with safety lock.

\$2.50 per pack

AIS Seals

\$10.00 for 5 packs

Self-adhesive ovals larger than a half dollar, official design in blue and green on silver background. (50 per pack)

\$1.00 each

AIS Logo Decals (for use on car windows, etc.)

\$4.00, 1 pack

Iris Post Cards (16 per pack)

\$10.00, 3 packs

\$25.00, 10 packs

Prices include postage and handling. Make checks payable to The American Iris Society. Send order to:

Jerry Gifford

Phone: (615) 834-0401

PO Box 1414

Antioch, TN 37011

Special offer on AIS Bulletin Back Issues

\$5.00 10 Bulletins

\$8.00 40 Bulletins

\$6.00 20 Bulletins

\$9.00 50 Bulletins

\$7.00 30 Bulletins

\$10.00 60 Bulletins

Ideal to hand out at shows, sales, and other activities. Assortment selected by AIS from available stock. Make check to *American Iris Society*. Order this special offer separately from other orders, from:

Paul W. Gossett

Phone (918) 745-0852

1708 E 53rd St.

Tulsa, OK 74105-5726

Award Winners

1996 AJS National Convention

Franklin Cook Cup

Winner:	YAQUINA BLUE (Schreiner's)	17 votes
1st runner-up (tie):	FANCY WOMAN (Keppel)	10 votes
	JOHN KEARNEY (Innerst)	10 votes
2nd, 3rd & 4th (tie):	BOOGIE WOOGIE (Nichols)	9 votes
	CHEATING HEART (Keppel)	9 votes
	HELLO DARKNESS (Schreiner's)	9 votes
	RIPPLING RIVERS (Schreiner's)	9 votes

President's Cup

Winner:	JURASSIC PARK (L. Lauer)	78 votes
1st runner- up:	WINNIE CONKLIN (McWhirter)	15 votes
2nd runner- up:	KATHLEEN KAY NELSON (Hager)	13 votes
3rd runner- up:	PINK QUARTZ (V. Wood)	10 votes
4th runner- up:	HAIL TO THE CHIEF (Gartman)	9 votes

Index

of Advertisers

Diamonds & Gold International	Page 28
Green Gardens	Page 25
Iris Silverware & Handel Lamp	Page 66
O.D.A. Jewelry Designers	Page 70
Paw Paw Everlast Label Co.	Page 68
Region 14	Page 15
Region 23	Page 21
Varigay Gardens	Page 50

New Advertising Rates

FOR AIS Bulletin

RECENTLY, AIS MEMBERSHIP DUES WERE RAISED TO HELP COVER THE increased cost of producing the Bulletin. Effective beginning with the October 1996 issue, advertising rates will be increased as well. Basic ad rates will no longer include typesetting or layup. The ad sizes will be changed slightly as well.

Shopping Section (formerly the "Commercial Directory") found in the back of each *Bulletin*. Placement is alphabetical.

\$42.00	15/16 inch	Rate is for 4 issues. Price does <i>not</i> include typesetting or layup. All ads are 2 1/16 inch wide.
\$58.00	1 15/16 inch	
\$73.00	2 15/16 inch	

Display Advertising (Rate is for single issue)

\$35.00	1 inch	1 x 4 1/4
\$46.00	1/4 page	1 7/8 x 4 1/4 (wide), or 3 3/4 x 2 1/8 (tall)
\$58.00	1/3 page	2 1/2 x 4 1/4 (wide), or 7 1/2 x 1 1/2 (tall)
\$81.00	1/2 page	3 3/4 x 4 1/4 (wide), or 7 1/2 x 2 1/8 (tall)
\$104.00	2/3 page	5 x 4 1/4
\$115.00	3/4 page	5 5/8 x 4 1/4
\$138.00	Full page	7 1/2 x 4 1/4
\$276.00	Full page, Color (plus color separations at cost)	

Terms

Payment is due with ad copy. Rates are for camera ready artwork only. Typesetting and layout are additional cost (see below). Ads due: July 15 (Oct. issue), October 15 (Jan. issue), January 15 (Apr. issue), April 15 (Jul. issue). Send ad and payment (payable to AIS) to:

Jean Erickson, Advertising Editor (707) 526-5204
4036 Trinity Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95405

Typesetting, Layout, & Graphic Design

Typesetting, layout, and graphic design work can be done by *Flash Graphic Design*, the company that does the layout for the new Bulletin. The rate they charge is \$30 per hour. Layup for a small shopping section ad would typically cost \$10 – \$15. Billing is separate from the ad cost, payable directly to:

Flash Graphic Design (206) 517-5940
2760 NE 98th St, Seattle WA 98115

Bulletin of the AIS Shopping Section

AAA QUALITY ENGRAVERS

*Botanical Garden
Quality Engraved
Markers for Iris
& other plants.*

- Quickly Installed
- U.V. Stable
- AAA Service, 1-2 wks.
- Deluxe & Economy
- Black or Green



*Ask for **FREE SAMPLE***
AAA QUALITY ENGRAVERS

Bernard & Warren Holliday
5754 Oxford Place, Dept. IR-1
New Orleans, LA 70131
Phone/Fax (504) 391-2225
(Continental USA Only)

ADAMGROVE Iris · Daylilies

**Medians, Dwarfs, Talls
Species**

Representing
**Boswell, Sindt, Hager, Rich,
Albers & Tankesley-Clarke**

More Color Than Ever
Catalogue \$3.00; Refundable



DAMGROVE
Rte. 1, Box 1472
Dept. A
California, MO 65018

ABBAY GARDENS

Due to serious family illness
there will be no catalogue for 1996.

Any outstanding orders from
1995 will be shipped or refunded.

Visitors will be welcome in the
garden during bloom season.

Please call first for an
appointment and directions.

We would like to thank all of
you who have so kindly expressed
your concern and your support for us
at this time.

Dave & Nancy Silverberg
32009 S. Ona Way
Molalla, OR 97038
(503) 829-2928

Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden

Award winning Irises

Introductions by Terry Aitken, Ken
Fisher, Chad Harris, Bennett &
Evelyn Jones, Carol Lankow, and
Marky Smith.

\$2.⁰⁰ for Color Catalog

Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden
608 NW 119 St
Vancouver WA 98685



Shopping Section



**ARGYLE
ACRES**

Joe & Donna Spears
910 Pioneer Circle East
Argyle, Texas 76226
817/464-3680

For Catalog: Send two first
class stamps and your address.

**HISTORIC AND MODERN
BEARDED IRISES**

BAY VIEW GARDENS

of Joseph J. Ghio
1201 Bay St. Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Send \$2.00 for catalog listing the finest in
Tall, Louisiana, Pacifica, and Spuria Irises.

THE BLOOMING PLACE

1902 east Pine Lodge rd.
Roswell, NM 88201
Pansies, Perennials and Bulbs: list for
FALL PLANTING available in August.
Annuals, Perennials and Bulbs; SPRING
PLANTING available in January.
IRIS list available in May.

Send first class stamp
for descriptive listing.

THE BLOOMING PLACE

We Grow Our Plants Especially For You

Babbette's Gardens

Specializing in TBs and Daylilies



Send \$1 for Catalog
Please make checks
payable to:
Babbette Sandt
40975 N. 172 St. East
Lancaster, CA 93535

Video tape of
gardens available
for \$18 - includes
catalog - specify
VHS or Beta




CALIFORNIA'S MOST PICTURESQUE IRIS GARDEN

Featuring 1,000 varieties:
Rebloomers, Historics and
Award Winners

— GARDEN LIST \$1 —
REASONABLE PRICES

BLUE IRIS

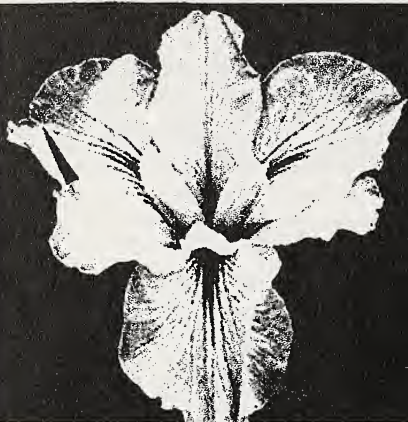
20791 Woodbury Drive
Grass Valley, CA 95949
(916) 346-2905
Come visit following 1996
AIS National Convention

Advertiser Alert!

**New Ad Rates.
New Ad Sizes.**

**Beginning next issue.
See page 87**

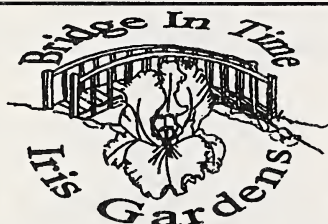
Shopping Section



Bois d'Arc Gardens
1831 Bull Run Road
Schriever, Louisiana 70395
Phone: (504)-446-2329
Specializing in Louisiana Irises
Color Catalog \$2.00

BORGLUM'S IRIS

2202 Austin Road
 Geneva, NY 14456
 Home of the Siberian "Lake Keuka"
 TB - BB - SDB - SIB
 Send stamp for price list.



1996

Introductions
 of
Betty Wilkerson

10116 Scottsville Road
 Alvaton, KY 42122
 with an emphasis on rebloomers.
 Also listing approximately 500 irises,
 both old and new
 ... some rebloomers.
Send stamp for price list.



Old & New
Varieties
GREAT VALUES

Send \$1.00 for catalog

BLUEBIRD HAVEN
IRIS GARDEN

6940 FAIRPLAY ROAD
 SOMERSET, CA 95684

GEORGE C. BUSH

CLEAN SHAVEN IRIS (beardless)

Featuring Japanese, Siberian and Species irises.
 Also Spurias and Louisianas.
 Comprehensive price list for a stamp.

VISITORS ALWAYS WELCOME
 1739 Memory Lane Extd., York, PA 17402
 Ph. 717/755-0557

CAL-DIXIE IRIS GARDENS

Largest selection of quality
 affordable bearded irises (new
 and old) in Southern California.

Herb and Sara Holk
 14115 Pear St.
 Riverside CA 92508

Catalog: 2 first-class stamps



COOPER'S
GARDEN

Siberian, Louisiana, and Species Irises
 2345 Decatur Ave N
 Golden Valley, MN 55427
 (612) 542-9447 Catalog: \$1.00

CHEHALEM GARDENS

Tom and Ellen Abrego
 PO Box 693 Newberg OR 97132
Siberian and Spuria Irises
Descriptive price list available upon request

Shopping Section



Specializing in TBs, BBs, IB, SDBs, and Spurias.

CAPE IRIS GARDENS

822 Rodney Vista Blvd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Catalog \$1.00—Refundable

Dave Niswonger, Hybridizer and Grower



Chuck Chapman Iris

Over 700 Median & MDB
Over 1400 total
Rebloomers & Spaceage
\$2.00 for Catalog
Deductible from order

11 Harts Lane
Guelph, Ont., Canada
N1L 1B1



Tall Bearded Irises

9130 Highway 99E
Los Molinos, CA

If you are in California, come see us.
Display garden is located 30 minutes north
of Chico and open during bloom season.

Catalog \$1 (refundable)
send to

Gene and Tina Cabral
P.O. Box 9264, Chico, CA 95927
916-345-3937

COOLEY'S GARDENS

11553 Silverton Rd., N.E.
P.O. Box 126
SILVERTON, OREGON 97381

FEATURING
THE FINEST OF
TALL BEARDED IRISES
QUALITY RHIZOMES

Incomparable Iris catalog in color

Free with your first order
of the season
and to our recent customers
or

Send \$3.00 for the catalog,
then deduct it from
your first catalog order.

Advertiser Alert!

New Ad Rates.

New Ad Sizes.

Beginning next issue. See page 87

Shopping Section

Comanche Acres Iris Gardens

Route 1, Box 258
Gower, MO 64454

Quality TB, BB, LA and median
irises at reasonable prices.

Introductions by Jim Hedgecock,
Henry Rowlan, Hiram Ames and
Jimmy Burch.

*Beautiful tall bearded color
catalog \$3.⁰⁰ for two years.*

*Separate median and
Louisiana lists \$1.⁰⁰ each.*

CONTEMPORARY GARDENS of Perry Dyer

Box 534 Blanchard, OK 73010

An eclectic assortment of Tall
Bearded, Median, and Louisiana
Irises (both modern and classics),
plus a large selection of day-
lilies. Featuring iris introductions
from Augusto Bianco (Italy) and
John Taylor (Australia).

Send \$2 for 1996 catalog, available in February.

D. and J. GARDENS

7872 Howell Prairie Road, N.E.
Silverton, OR 97381

Introductions of Joyce
and Duane Meek

See our ad in the April Bulletin
Send \$1.00 for catalog.

DAVID IRIS FARM

Rt. 1, Fort Dodge, Iowa 50501
Northern Grown Iris
Newer & older varieties - reasonable prices
TB—BB—IB—MTB—MDB

Send first class stamp for list
SDB Specials

DRAYCOTT GARDENS

Siberian and Japanese Irises

Carol Warner
16815 Falls Road
Upperco, MD 21155
(410) 374-4788

Send \$1 for price list.



HAVE A PASSION FOR PLANTS?

Shouldn't you be using
Dyna-Gro plant nutrients?

Only Dyna-Gro supplies all 6
macronutrients plus all 10 micronutrients
for complete nutrition in one easy to use
liquid formula. Plants fed with all the
essential mineral elements are healthier,
more insect, disease, heat and drought
resistant. Your plants will be greener,
stronger, and have more flowers, with
vibrant colors, and fragrance.

For award winning results on all your
plants call 800- DYNA-GRO

The Nutrition Solution and ask for free
information on the Dyna-Gro Difference.

DYNA-GRO
C O R P

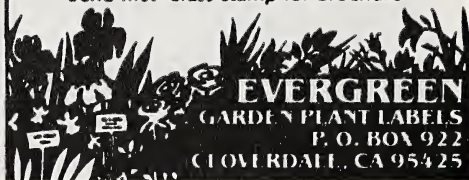
The Nutrition Solution™

1065 Broadway, San Pablo, CA 94806

Your garden deserves **EVERGREEN** labels

- Plant name engraved in U-V resistant green plastic plate; slips into galvanized steel backplate mounted on stem.
- Other galvanized steel products: plain plant markers, tag stakes, bloomstalk supports and rose pegging hooks.

Send first class stamp for brochure



EVERGREEN

GARDEN PLANT LABELS

P. O. BOX 922

CLOVERDALE, CA 95425

Shopping Section



ENSATA GARDENS

Specialists in Japanese Iris. Catalog of descriptions with culture page \$2.00.

9823 E. Michigan Ave.
Galesburg, Mich. 49053

Fleur de lis Gardens

Chet W. Tompkins
185 N.E. Territorial Rd.
Canby, OR 97013

Specializing in the finest
TALL BEARDED IRISES
DAYLILIES
and
HOSTAS

Hardy, Top Quality Plants
From the North Willamette Valley

Color Catalogue—\$2.00
Refundable with order

at last . . . **THE PERFECT MARKER**



- White engraved names on teal green face
- Durable, UV, weather resistant plastic
- Heavy duty 9-gauge plated stake
- Professional look
- Designed to last
- Satisfaction guaranteed

Great
for:
IRIS
HOSTA
DAY
LILLIES

LSASE for brochure
Forget-Me-Not Marker Co.
Rt. 2, Box 304, Urbana, Illinois 61801



FRIENDSHIP GARDENS

Specializing in Reblooming Irises

Featuring

1996 Introductions of
Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg

Descriptive catalog \$1.00

Joan and Ken Roberts
2590 Wellworth Way
West Friendship, MD 21794

Advertiser Alert!

New Ad Rates.

New Ad Sizes.

Beginning next issue. See page 87

Shopping Section

STOCK REDUCTION

of 1979 and earleir iris
—\$2.00 each + postage—
Older Dykes \$5.00 each
+ postage
Send SASE for list
Regular Catalog \$3.00
deduct from catalog order

FOXES' IRIS PATCH

R.R. 5, BOX 382 Huron, SD 57350

**custom printed
self-stick labels
for your irises . . .
inexpensive, durable**

for details and
FREE samples, write:
Garden Fonts
Dept. I
1007 Province Rd.
Barnstead NH 03218

HADAWAY FARMS

Route 1, Box 42M Carney, OK 74832

A FLOWER BED OF IRIS featuring tall
and median bearded iris at affordable
prices. Descriptive price list \$1.00
(refundable with 1st order)

HAHN'S RAINBOW IRIS GARDEN

200 N. School Street
Desloge, MO 63601

IRISES AND DAYLILIES

Send \$1.50 for catalog, deductible from 1st order

IRIS--THE RAINBOW FLOWER



Video by Carolyn Hawkins, AIS Judge

**Soil Preparation, Planting,
Dividing, Pests/Diseases,
Hybridizing, Designs and more!**

35 minutes--Perfect for club
programs or club libraries. \$19.95 +
\$3 Postage and Handling

Make check payable to: National
Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc.,
4401 Magnolia, St. Louis, MO
63110-3492

Hermit

Bill & Ada Godfrey
3 Pierce St

Medlars

Foxborough MA 02035

Walk

**MDBs, SDBs, MTBs,
IBs, BBs, TBs,
REBLOOMERS**

Display garden includes Louisiana's,
Siberian, Japanese, and Species
(but not yet in our catalogue).

Catalogue \$1 (deduct from order)

HILL & HOLLOW GARDENS

249 COFFEE RD—PETERSBURG TN 37144

A selection of older and reblooming irises

—CATALOG ON REQUEST—

"IRIS LADY'S GARDEN"

SDB IB MTB BB TB

Newborns, teenagers & adults

Catalogue \$1.00 refundable

2701 Fine Avenue

Modesto, CA 95355

(209) 551-6546

Shopping Section

"SWEET LENA" SCENTED IRIS **Holland Gardens**

29106 Meridian
E. Graham, WA 98338

*Specialiaing in the rare T.B. iris
with the*

Pronounced sweet scented fragrance

*Identified as Pallida androfetila
by Tira Nursery, Israel*

Send stamp for brochure
or call (206) 847-5425

Send \$1.00 for catalog

Large Selection of Cultivars

Quantity Prices Available

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Bulletin of the American Iris Society

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Anne Lowe, 12219 Zilles Rd., Blackstone, VA 23824, (804) 265-8198

5: South Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Puerto Rico:

Marshall L. Goforth, 837 S. Green River Rd, Gaffney, SC 29341, (803) 487-4082

6: Ohio, Indiana and Michigan:

Emma C. Hobbs, 3303 Westfield Road, Noblesville, IN 46060, (317) 896-2800

7: Tennessee and Kentucky:

Jerry Gifford, 5647 Myrtlewood Drive, Nashville, TN 37211, (615) 834-0401

8: Minnesota and Wisconsin:

Mrs. Mickey Giefer, Route 2, Box 100, Nicollet, MN 56074, (507) 225-3336

9: Illinois:

George S. Poole, 775 Kaid Road, Eldorado, IL 62930, (618) 273-5992

10: Louisiana:

Mrs. Hubert Rena, 4313 Lake Villa Drive, Metairie, LA 70002, (504) 885-4442

11: Idaho, Montana and Wyoming:

Oz Reyna, 715 Central Canyon, Nampa, ID 83651, (208) 466-9133

12: Utah:

Mrs. Cathy Hagan Reed, 1584 Meadow Moor Rd., Holladay, UT 84117, (801) 272-7992

13: Washington, Oregon and Alaska:

Marky D. Smith, 1014 Crest Acres Pl., Yakima, WA 98908, (509) 965-1005

14: Northern California, Nevada and Hawaii:

George Sutton, 16592 Road 208, Porterville, CA 93257, (209) 784-9011

15: Southern California and Arizona:

Bill Rinchart, 22218 Schoenborn St., West Hills, CA 91304, (818) 346-1912

16: Canada:

Gatherine Boyko, Route 9, Bains Rd, Dunnville, Ont. N1A2W8, Canada, (905) 774-8360

17: Texas:

Mrs. David Lamb, 714 Pebble Creek Drive, Garland, TX 75040, (214) 495-5645

18: Kansas and Missouri:

Mike Hargrove, 1818 Cramer, Wichita, KS 67212, (316) 722-4316

19: New Jersey and Staten Island:

Joseph John Griner, 25 Mill Chase Rd, Southampton, NJ 08088-9640, (609) 859-9251

20: Colorado:

Glenna Chapman, 588 Coronado Drive, Sedalia, CO 80135, (303) 660-9473

21: Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and North Dakota:

Calvin Reuter, 2317 3RD Rd., Wisner, NE 68791, (402) 529-6860

22: Arkansas and Oklahoma:

Ronald Mullin, Route 3, Box 84, Pawnee, OK 74058, (918) 762-2430

23: New Mexico:

Karen Bergamo, 2508 Punta de Vista, NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112, (505) 299-5198

24: Alabama and Mississippi:

James G. Burch, 205 Knox Drive, Huntsville, AL 35811, (205) 852-6026

AIS Bulletin

Table of Contents

Regular Features:

Page 2	Officers & Committee Chairpeople
Page 3	AIS Sections
Page 4	Regions & Regional Vice Presidents
Page 6	President's Message
Page 9	Editor's Message
Page 10	Corrections to previous Bulletins
Page 12	Youth Views
Page 84	Contributions
Page 86	Index of Advertisers
Page 94	Official AIS Storefront
Page 96	AIS Slides For Rent
Page 97	Shopping Section
Page 112	AIS Bulletin Advertising Rates

Articles:

Page 11	Photographer's Secrets
Page 16	Robin Roster
Page 18	Convention Gardens
Page 44	Membership Contest
Page 45	Alfalfa, the Magic Elixir
Page 47	Contemporary Views, Part 2
Page 55	Photos of Award Winning Irises
Page 63	Design Corner
Page 67	International News
Page 73	Streaking is in!
Page 77	1996 AIS Awards
Page 87	AIS Board Minutes



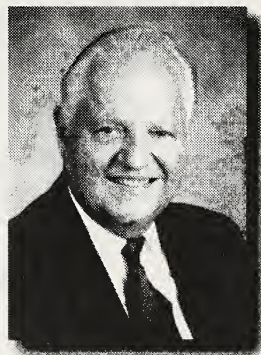
Front Cover Photo by Michael Moller: BEFORE THE STORM, 1996 Dykes Medal winner. Back cover photo of Sterling & Barbara Innerst by Carol Warner; Innerst seedlings by Terry Aitken.

President's Message

Fall Happenings

by Dave Niswonger

AS PREDICTED, THE 76TH AIS CONVENTION IN Sacramento was a huge success. Jay Hudson, the Chairman, along with his sidekick Terri and all the committees from Region 14 and the affiliates of Santa Rosa Iris Society, Leo T. Clark Iris Society and the Sacramento Iris Society did a spectacular job. Except for a windy day, the weather was fine, the irises were great, the food and snacks were exemplary, the transportation was comfortable and the fellowship was out of this world. I'm sure all of us want to send a big "Thank You" to our iris friends in the Gold Rush Country for all the work, thought and effort expended to make our visit so enjoyable.



Dave Niswonger, AIS President

The visit of Sergey Loktev, President of the Central Iris Society of Moscow, as well as other overseas visitors, added to the International flavor of the convention. It was an opportunity to discuss the organization of a World Iris Association. A committee was formed to explore the role that such an organization might provide. It was decided to prepare a position statement outlining purposes, goals, etc. which would be circulated to see how much interest there might be on the part of organizations and individuals to support such an effort.

Three mini conventions followed big blast at Sacramento. I'm sure reports on these conventions will be forthcoming. I was able to attend the Median convention at Portland and the Species and Siberian convention at Westford, MA. I missed the Japanese Iris convention at St. Louis, but early reports indicate that it was a huge success. Both of the conventions I attended were superb.

We hit peak bloom at each, and the latest cultivars were seen. I'll have to say our hybridizers are coming up with some fantastic new things for our enjoyment. The National convention is usually timed to hit the peak of the Tall Bearded bloom and occasionally the miniclimates are such that we get to see other types of irises, but if an Irisarian has other interests in addition to tall bearded, the mini-convention is the place to go. The crowd is smaller and you get a chance to meet and talk with the growers and hybridizers in those categories.

Several reports around the country indicate that overall this is probably one of the worst years for Tall Bearded irises (Sacramento probably had one of the best seasons compared to the rest of the country). All of this gives me the opportunity to suggest that you add some other types of irises to your collection. This year I had two hail storms in the country where I grow my seedlings and I missed getting to evaluate my tall bearded seedlings, which means I will have to grow them all an extra year. But my spurias and other later beardless irises were great. I once wrote an article, *The Backup Squad*, after such a year. Late freezes, drought, too much rain and wind and hail can really mess up the iris season. As a hybridizer, if I lose the tall bearded season for setting seeds, I can grow more SDB or Beardless iris seedlings which, incidentally, has opened up many new avenues and experiences for me.


Our Internet enthusiasts have been busy on the computer and opened up new avenues of communication in promoting the iris. We have an Internet Study committee that is looking further into ways in which more information might be transmitted-even the use of the World Wide Web. This could help us to share and receive more information from our iris friends overseas. Look for future reports from this committee.

I like the new looks of our Bulletin. I'm sure Terry Aitken would like to hear from you if you have any comments or suggestions. The use of more color is one goal if we can find funds to support it.

We will be losing the services of Lillian Gristwood as Exhibitions Chairman this fall. Lillian has served in this capacity

for eight years and I want to thank her for all the work and dedication she has given the American Iris Society. This will also end her participation on the Board of Directors. Thank you very much, Lillian.

Colorado Springs will be hosting the fall meeting of the Board of Directors. We look forward to being there and enjoying the beautiful setting the "Springs" provide. The Elmhurst Iris Society always does things in a wonderful way, and I know the fellowship will be outstanding.

It is time for the irises to take their long winter's nap. It will give us the chance to do more letter writing and the robins can be in full flight. Make it a good winter. 

Bois d'Arc Gardens

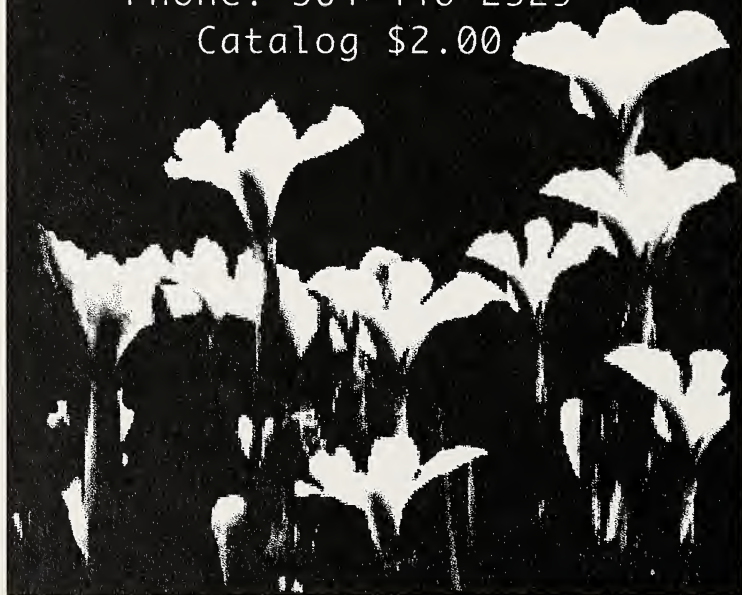
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Editor's Message

Change Waits for Nobody!

by Terry Aitken

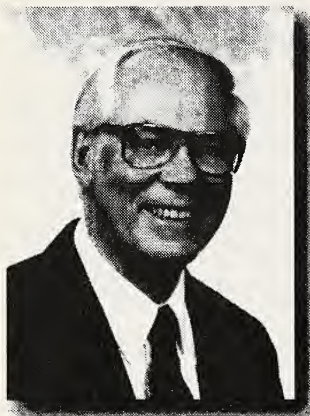
JUST AS I WAS COMING TO GRIPS WITH CD-ROM, WE suddenly switched to "Zip Discs"! This apparently gives us much greater flexibility of use, for greater refinement of photographs. We also discovered that everybody could sharpen their images from the industry standard of 133 dots per inch to 150 dots per inch with no cost change. We also learned a few tricks about "ganging" photos on computer before running color separations, which cuts the cost of color in half. There is a "learning curve" to this task and I thank all the people involved for helping to make it happen.

For those of you who may have been puzzled by the article on GENETIC ENGINEERING, Rick Ernst of Cooley's Gardens provided the report. They are going after "the red iris". The first step is a virus free plant in which to insert the pigment. There are many possible by-products to this project - flowers that last for weeks; frost resistant flowers; disease resistant plants. More late breaking news on this very important project will be reported as it comes in.

The use of the terms "rare" or "endangered species" seems to have caused a furor. We use these terms very loosely. Are the terms defined internationally? Is there any international authority? Have the species discussed ever been inventoried? Is there any documented change in population? If extinction is the option to collecting seed, which do we choose? There are a few weed species in my garden that I would like to think of as "endangered"!


I am floating an idea and looking for your response. We are physically (economically) limited to a Bulletin of 124 pages. If we wish to maintain a text size that you can read, we may have to go to a "Business Supplement" to be inserted with the October and April Bulletins. This would free up space for more interesting

material for the newer members. The supplemental bulletins would contain board minutes, affiliates lists, judges lists, etc. These could be numbered sequentially, and in actuality become the equivalent of six Bulletins a year.



Terry Aitken, AIS Bulletin Editor

We were really surprised at the diversity of responses that we got to the new Bulletin format. Several people went to considerable effort to provide us with constructive suggestions and information which would make this a more "user friendly" Bulletin. Son Scott (layout and graphics) and I thank you and encourage others to contribute their input.

Good response to the cover photos with enquiries as to how they were accomplished led to the following explanation in an article by Bob Plank. 

Corrections to previous Bulletins:

Anniversary Bulletin, May 1995:

Page 28: AIS Distinguished Service Medals were also awarded to: James Rasmussen, 1991, Francesca Thoolen, 1991

April Bulletin, 1996:

Page 24: Bottom picture captions - *I. tenuis* on the LEFT; 40 CHROMOSOME Siberian on the RIGHT.

July Bulletin, 1996:

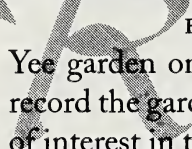
Page 86: President's Cup, 1st runner-up is incorrectly spelled. Correct spelling is WINI CONKLIN (McWhirter).

Page 54: In good humor, Perry Dyer demands a retraction! In the picture, this photographer confirms that Perry was speaking into his microcassette taking varietal notes, contrary to the opinions of those of you with overly vivid imaginations.


July Bulletin Cover

Photographer's Secrets

by Bob Plank, California

 REGARDING THE COVER PHOTOS OF THE SHERMAN-Yee garden on the July 1996 *AIS Bulletin*, my objective was to record the garden in its entirety in sharp focus, including features of interest in the near foreground. Good depth of field, as this is called, generally means small aperture settings. These, in turn, go with slow shutter speeds, with attendant risks of image blurring due to movement of camera or subject.

My equipment consisted of a Minolta Maxxum 7000 autofocus camera, a Minolta RC-1000 remote shutter release, a Sigma 24-50 mm f/4-5.6 autofocus zoom lens, a Tiffen circular polarized filter, and a Slik ballhead tripod. The film was Kodak Lumiere LPZ-100X color slide film, an Ektachrome akin to Elite EB-100.

With the camera in the aperture priority mode, I set the aperture to the smallest stop available (f/32). I zoomed the lens to the widest angle setting (24mm). After autofocusing on (actually slightly behind) the most prominent feature in the foreground, I held this focus and recomposed the image in the viewfinder. Between puffs of wind I released the shutter with the remote. Although unrecorded, the shutter speed, selected automatically by the camera, was in the neighborhood of 1/3 second. For insurance against exposure uncertainties and possible image movement, I took several extra shots at fractional f-stops around the indicated settings. 

Editor - Also, for those who are asking, the inside back cover photo in the July, 1996 Bulletin represents the best in Region Seedling that I saw at the Sacramento convention. It is Terada seedling #214-9, registered in 1995 as GLACIA ISLAND. - Terry Aitken

Youth Views

Youth Essay & Achievement Award Rules

by Jean E. Morris

Youth essay contest winner announced

THE AIS FOUNDATION HAS ANNOUNCED THE 1996 winner of the Ackerman Memorial Youth Essay Contest. She is eleven-year-old Jennifer Dawn Brewer of Jackson, Kentucky, Region 7. The cash prize of \$100 for the contest winner is made possible by an endowment from Mrs. Robert Thrun of Lansing, Michigan, in memory of her parents, Jay and Marian Ackerman. The Youth Committee is grateful to Mrs. Thrun and all those who lend financial support to the AIS youth program.

This year's essay topic was, "If you could be an iris, which one would you be?" One can tell by Jennifer's essay, which follows, that she has a flair for writing and a thorough knowledge of irises.

Great-Grandma's Iris

As you well know, there are many different irises in a great variety of sizes and colors. Some stand majestically tall and some linger close to the ground. In my yard, by the steps, there are tiny three inch tall woodland irises, and over by our fire hydrant is a Japanese iris, tall and lovely, but by the lamppost is Great-Grandma's iris. If I were an iris, Great-Grandma's iris is the one that I would be.

My Great-Grandma's iris is a fragile beauty. It would be described as a "self" of the palest white. But when you open up the standards, you will find light tints of pink, lavender and blue at the base of the petals. The color of the beards is yellow and within the blossom is the sweet aroma of cotton candy. This iris is not fancy or flashy, but in my eyes it is a tranquil beauty, just as I would like to be.

My Great-Grandma's iris was dug from her yard and replanted by the lamppost in my yard. The iris is part of the original iris that had belonged to my Great-Grandma. My mother dug up a piece of the iris from under the cedar tree in my Great-Grandmother's yard. Now, my Great-Grandmother's house is gone, and so is she. She died five years before I was born. Long ago, families and friends exchanged flowers. My mother and I think that this is how my Great-Grandma got this strange iris. This is so because we have never seen

another iris like it. The iris represents all of the mothers and daughters in my family.

In my yard there are many pretty flowers gathered from near and far. There are SARAH TAYLOR, CHICO MAID, SILVERADO, PLANNED TREASURE, and many more, all famous and photographed. But, I would be Great-Grandma's iris because it is very dear to me, and I love it best.

Other youths who entered this year's essay contest are Will Mohr of Region 2, Krissy Legg and Gary Moody of Region 6, Mikaella Winkelmann of Region 9, Stephanie Brower and Isaac Endicott of Region 14, Sylvia Chapman of Region 16, Seann Perry of Region 17, Jolene Braeuner, Shilo Gillam, Kevin Gormley, Danika King, Tina Krampe and Stephanie Rust of Region 18, and Monica Combrink of Region 22. These essays will be published in the youth newsletter, THE IRIS FAN, and we urge Regional Editors to reprint them in their respective bulletins. Each essay was inspiring, interesting and well written. Thanks to everyone who entered the contest, and congratulations to the winner, Jennifer Brewer.

Clarke Cosgrove Nominations Sought

It goes without saying that Regional Youth Chairmen (RYCs) should be searching their youth ranks for appropriate candidates to nominate for the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement. RVPs, as well, should confer with RYC's and write additional nominations. Also, local Youth Advisors, along with affiliate officers and members, should choose promising youth members to nominate. Writing these nominations at an early date, before the holiday rush, is the ideal way to support your region's young people.

How do I write a good nomination, many people wonder. Nominators are often hesitant to begin, especially if they do not know the youth member very well.

One way to learn about a young person's activities and attributes is to ask. Ask members of the local affiliate. Ask the youth's parents and/or grandparents. In fact, an interview (in person or by phone) with the youth member is usually helpful.

While a youth need not have accomplished everything on the



Jean E. Morris
Youth Committee Chairperson

rules list, he or she should be involved in a few of the suggested areas. Ask if the youth has been willing to contribute to a club event, to shoulder a club responsibility or to lend a helping hand when needed. Next, ask about the youth's personality and character, keeping in mind that perfection is not expected. Now you are ready to put your thoughts into a nomination following the guidelines below.

Don't depend on others—the Youth Committee needs *you* to support and encourage your region's deserving young people by writing a nomination. It takes an entire region to foster a young irisarian.

Youth Achievement Contest Rules

You may find these guidelines helpful when you nominate your favorite AIS youth:

- He/She grows a very fine garden of his/her own.
- He/She is an active hybridizer.
- He/She has contributed to an iris publication.
- He/She has helped an iris organization through a committee or activity.
- He/She visits local gardens.
- He/She has attended regional/national conventions.
- He/She is studying to become, or is already, an AIS judge.
- He/She has promoted irises and/or AIS to others.
- He/She has found new AIS members.
- He/She competes enthusiastically in shows.
- He/She is involved in scientific experiments with irises.
- He/She is interested in irises other than TBs.
- He/She shows leadership.

If you know an AIS youth member who is active in any of these areas, please nominate that youth. Rules are simple. Any AIS member may nominate any AIS youth member. Entries must

be in writing, including the name and age of the youth member, and mailed to Jean E. Morris, 682 Huntley Heights Dr., Ballwin, MO 63021, by January 31, 1997. The Youth Committee will code the entries to conceal identities and send them to a carefully selected panel of judges. Awards will be presented at the AIS National Convention in Dearborn, Michigan.

Tips To Nominators: Please use the activity list above as an outline for your nomination, elaborating on each area which applies to your nominee. Try to limit your nomination to a maximum of two pages. A youth may be nominated by more than one person. Feel free to add anything not covered in the list, especially those qualities which make your nominee special. Take as much care and consideration as possible in preparing your nomination. How well you present your nominee to the judges may influence the outcome. ❧



Jean Morris presents award to Kevin Gormley at Sacramento Convention.

Robin Roster

International Robin Anyone?

by Libby Cross




INTERNATIONAL ROBIN MEMBERS WANTED.

There have been several requests from our A.I.S. members, in countries other than the USA, for International Robins in a number of categories. I would like to get at least one General Robin started to accommodate these folks.

We need not only members, but a director or two. How about it, Y'all? Do we still have some letter writers out there or has the World Wide Web swallowed everyone up?

If you would like to get in on some interesting Foreign Correspondence, send your name and address to:

Libby Cross, Robin Chairman
8907 Potts Creek Rd.
Covington, VA, 24426

Please include a note about your favorite area of Iris interest, so that eventually we may be able to have International Robins in specialized categories. 



IRISES THEN AND NOW

1997 IRIS CALENDAR

It's time to order our twelfth annual iris calendar.

Make check to AIS; for single copies, send \$5.00. Quantity purchases come in packets of ten or multiples of ten; the price for packets of ten is \$30.00.

Order from Jerry Gifford, AIS Sales Director,
P.O. Box 1414, Antioch, TN 37011

'96 Convention Gardens

*Reviews from the 1996
National Convention*

Overview

by Terry Aitken

EACH YEAR, THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY GATHERS AT A predetermined location to conduct the business of the Society, provide educational and promotional programs and to view the latest and greatest irises that the world has to offer. It is an excellent opportunity to meet people with whom you communicate or have heard about all year long. Further communications become much more meaningful when you know the real person on the other end. These conventions are the responsibility of the host Society, not the National organization, because of the many logistical decisions that must be made, and for the financial outcome implicit in these plans.

Timing and guesswork is everything! A meeting and banquet facility must be selected several years in advance for an unknown number of attendees. Guest gardens and gardeners must be selected three years before tour time to handle a nebulous number of guest irises (probably three thousand, more or less), and



Jay Hudson, Convention Chairman



Larry Lauer wins Presidents Cup for best in region iris, JURASSIC PARK

someone must coordinate the arrival, distribution and ultimately the disposal of these plants.

Last minute decisions include fine tuning of tour buses and food caterers. Conventioneers are avid eaters! Figuring 2-3 cookies per garden, a large turnout ranging from 400 to 1000 people can cause stress for the overworked garden owners. Convention planning is an exhilarating, challenging experience for the whole team.

This year's team in Sacramento was headed up by Jay Hudson and sponsored by AIS Region 14. Our thanks go to the Sacramento team for a job well done. While the rest of North America was battered by severe weather, we were indeed fortunate and appreciative that this year's event was held in California. The plants were in excellent bloom; the skies were sunny and the temperatures moderate, even if the afternoon winds made photography a bit challenging. The geographical distribution of gardens provided great opportunity for viewing many iris types from Louisiana irises at Roris and Bob and Mary Dunn's gardens, to the lush tall bearded irises in the Napa Valley to the early blooming Medians at the high altitude gardens of Forest Ranch. We saw it all!

The Begley Garden

by Margaret Sutton

THE BEGLEY GARDEN IS LOCATED IN THE COUNTRYSIDE WEST of Santa Rosa. The approach to the house is by way of a long driveway, at the onset of which is a large planting of California poppies, the state flower. The driveway is lined on the east side with several trees, among them apple trees which were in bloom. Interspersed between the trees and in the curved bed in front of the house were guest irises. In front of the house were evansias, Pacific coast irises, a Japanese maple, columbine and a very delicate dwarf papyrus.

Several guest iris caught my eye. Among these were AURA LIGHT (B. Blyth '96), a brilliant gold amoena with three open blooms; HAUTE COUTURE (Gatty '96), a ruffled light peach pink blend with peach shoulder and beard; ACOMA (Magee

'90), with pale blue standards, horizontal ivory falls finely etched violet and henna beard; CHERRY LANE (Corlew '93), a lovely warm pink with pinkish red beard with several stalks holding a number of blooms; and LIGHTING STRIKE (Lange '94), with violet standards and purple violet horns.

The continuation of the driveway leads to the back yard, in which a free form swimming pool is surrounded by an expansive deck and well tended rose bushes. In addition to the irises are guava, Rose of Sharon in several colors, Australian tea, strawberry guava, a native redbud, and several clumps of Siberian irises, plus a lovely clump of SCARLET EMBERS (Begley '95) with rose standards, wine burgundy falls rimmed rose, and a burgundy lined white spot near gold beards. In the same bed is a planting of TENNISON RIDGE (Begley '89), an intense plum burgundy white ground plicata.

Beyond that, through a gate to the field, are several large beds which are filled with Jim's own tall bearded irises plus those he grows for the Santa Rosa Iris Society, in addition to some guest irises. In this area was PANAMA HATTIE (Begley '95) with light pink standards, plum falls edged light pink and conspicuous white lines radiating from the tangerine beard. Through the gate to the parking area and beyond is a greenhouse, a planting of large clumps of spurias, and the stock for Jim's hybridizing efforts, of which several seedlings show the PANAMA HATTIE influence. All in all, the garden was a delight and a pleasure to visit, with Jim Begley making all welcome.

F and L Garden

by Kitty Loberg

THERE WERE MANY CHALLENGES PUTTING ON THE CONVENTION this year and there were challenges for some of the gardens as well. Upon visiting F and L Iris Gardens, we experienced a unique challenge for the iris! This country iris garden is in the fertile agricultural lands around Chico, and the day I visited, Mother Nature had blessed us with some very strong winds! This provided me with an opportunity to evaluate our guest irises for the attributes of durability and wind tolerance.

Guests that I thought noteworthy were: RICH MAN (Lineberger '95), a purple with white hafts; J. ARTHUR NELSON from Frank Foster, a dark purple with a lighter purple in the throat; EVENING OASIS (Nichols '95), which had lavender blue falls and lighter lavender blue standards. RIPPLING RIVER (Schreiner's '95) exhibited very large blooms, with standards of dark blue and the falls even darker; however the stalks did not hold up well to the strong winds.

The most notable irises that did hold up well were NEAR AND DEAR, (Kerr), a ruffled yellow; and a light blue seedling with dark blue horns, G-20, by George Sutton. MAID OF ORANGE by Terry Aitken, with its dark orange beard, was very nice and MARTHA'S GOLD, also from Terry Aitken, did well. With MARTHA'S GOLD, the color held up to the wind, even on older blooms, shining like a beacon!

In the border bearded class, outside the guest beds, the row of BROWN LASSO was impressive, showing very little wind "wilt" and no fallen stalks.

A couple of seedlings also did well in the wind: B88-1049-A from Bob Dunn, a ruffled yellow with speckles in the throat; and 88445-DB from Lyle Fort, a tall ruffled dark lavender blue.

I found the white mule in the back to be quite entertaining. He seemed to want to be among us; his braying was indicative that he had things to tell us about the iris! I'm sure the mule would have told us about the wide walkways between the iris, and the abundant varieties showing wonderful colors from this spacious garden. I look forward to seeing this garden again.

The Betty Ford Garden

by Mary Ann Spurlock

THE BETTY FORD GARDEN OF SONOMA, CALIFORNIA, IN THE middle of wine country, northeast of San Francisco, was lovely and interesting, indeed.

Our bus passed through many miles of vineyards to arrive in the small historic town of Sonoma, population 8,100. The mission San Francisco Solano and the home of Sonomas' founder, General Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo, are here, in Sonoma. This town is also

well known for its Jack cheese factory and the Sebastiani Winery.

American novelist Jack London called Sonoma Valley, "The Valley of the Moon." The valleys' ethereal qualities abound all over the area. Many, many wineries flourish here in the Napa and Sonoma valleys, some dating back to the 1800's. But our tour was to visit the garden of Betty Ford, and we didn't even need wine to put us on cloud nine!

As we stepped off the bus, we were greeted by tall stands of beautiful, blooming *Spuria* iris, one of which was seedling #826C of Peter De Santis. A "pot-man" (a man made of pots), reclined in a lounge chair under a pine tree, leading the way to the main grounds, which were several inviting outdoor areas connected by tree-iris-companion-plant lined paths. There were areas with fountains, huge pieces of petrified trees, boulders, succulents growing out of lava rock, borders of lilac bushes and peach trees, etc. And everywhere were strategically placed clumps of iris (TBs, PCNs, Species, *Spuria*), as well as companion plants such as California poppies, Johnny jump ups, columbine, canna, and the list goes on. Tables, chairs, and stone benches invited one to sit (only a minute) under maple, birch, and willow trees. Grey, skinny, long-legged birds appeared to be pecking at bugs. It didn't matter that they weren't real. Everywhere you turned and looked there was a gorgeous view. Every path you took led to more interesting vistas. Almost overwhelming, there was much too little time to spend here. Much planning, planting, and time rewardingly spent was evident here! What a pleasant setting in which to enjoy our favorite flower, the iris!

NIGHT GAME (Keppel '96) was giving its all with the darkest black/purple velvet falls and purple standards with gold beards—superb in my book. JURASSIC PARK (Lauer '95), with its yellow-gold standards and lavender-blue falls, was giving its usual lovely performance.

Barry Blyth's ELECTRIQUE ('94) always stands out in the garden with its truly unique color combination, lavender-blue standards over slate rose falls with dark, dark beards. Zurbriggs' MARGARET HELEN ('95), a mid violet-blue self with horns was lovely. I've been partial to and hooked on space-age iris ever since Monty Byers put them on the map.

Jerry Moorhead's seedling #89-2-2 is one to watch. It has deep dark wine-velvet falls and wine standards, old gold beards. It was putting on a great show here as well as at the Owens and Roris gardens, just as it does in my garden.

There was a huge clump of Ghios' POWER SURGE ('90), a striking salmon-apricot/magenta plicata, showing off by a pine tree and other plants in Betty's front yard. Lynda Millers' PAGAN GODDESS ('95), a creamy peach, was doing well here and at Roris Gardens. It has bloomed for several months this year at Descanso Gardens in Los Angeles as a guest iris.

WINI CONKLIN (McWhirter '96), a beauteous big ruffly grape magenta, was doing a great job here, as it also was at Stockton Gardens, of course. This was named for a dear friend of mine, here in Southern California, I'm proud to say.

Also noteworthy were Sterling Innersts' AFTER THE STORM ('92) and DOROTHEA MARQUART ('94); KISS THE DAWN (Kerr '94); PACIFIC DESTINY (Lauer '93); LUCILLE RICHARDSON (Richardson '92); AMHERST COLORS (J. Durrance '93); watch Walter Moores' LEMON CHESS ('96) and Vern Woods' seedling # W92-49. How can any of us deny the many wonderful pinks that Vern Wood is bringing to us—one prettier than the next!

Some 35 years ago, I was honored by the TV show, "Queen for a Day" with a trip to the Napa Valley Wine Country. Little did I know, then, that I would be returning in 1996 to honor and enjoy our favorite flower, the iris.

The Betty Ford garden certainly was a fine setting to honor the iris. Thank you, Betty, for doing such a marvelous job, and for sharing all this beauty with us at the National Convention, Sacramento, 1996.

Forest Ranch Gardens of Bob & Irene Annand *by Tom Abrego (Oregon)*

LEAVING THE HOT FLAT SACRAMENTO VALLEY FLOOR, OUR BUS chugged east up into the foothills of the northern Sierra Nevada mountains. As we gained elevation, the land seemed inhospitable to anything but livestock, as the ground was littered with large

boulders, reminders of an earlier eruption of nearby Mt. Lassen. Finally, we left that landscape behind and entered the realm of the stately Ponderosa pines. The Annand garden is located at 2300 feet in elevation, giving a beautiful view west to the valley below. The sweet perfume of the pines, the beautiful vista and the Annands greeted us as we arrived.

It was quickly apparent that this was a designer's garden: the well organized beds were laid with the contours of the hillside, and a small stream flowed near the house. The Ponderosa pines and majestic redwoods were interplanted with lilacs, tree roses, redbuds and magnolias. Several species of manzanitas had been pruned up to show off their dark bark. Tulips were in bloom everywhere in the garden. Dutch Irises and daffodils were also abundant, a testament to the Annand's previous lives in the florist business. It was also quickly apparent that our visit was several weeks early. Bob noted that they had had snow just several weeks prior to our visit, and that normally peak bloom would be around Mother's Day, several weeks after our visit.

Most of the bloom was in the median beds at the upper end of the garden. The SDBs were glorious in their bloom. Vern Wood's CLUE ('95), a blue-bearded sulfur yellow, formed a magnificent clump. Allan Ensminger's AGELESS ('94), a showy pink with red beards, and VAVOOM ('94), a sulfur yellow, stood out. Ben Hager's JEWELRY ('91) and PRETTY CUTE ('93) also stood out, as did his pink seedling SD6015 PK.

Carol Lankow's IB CEE JAY ('92), a mid-violet plicata, looked excellent, as did Ben Hager's IB BLAST ('94) with its plum falls and apricot standards. Bob Dunn's SOUL SISTER, a dark rich blue, was the only TB that caught my attention.

In a shaded bed near the deck grew the PCI's. Joe Ghio's WILDER THAN EVER ('93), a white with a reddish purple splash, CHARTER MEMBER ('94), an orchid-pink and RAINBOW CONNECTION ('94), an unusually colored apricot overlaid with claret tones, all were growing and blooming well.

The beauty of this garden was matched by the hosts' hospitality. The Annand's beautiful daughters had come from their homes in the northern Sierras to help keep us hydrated and well fed. A

special bonus was encountering Sam and Vivian Best of nearby Chico helping as garden guides.

It's a sad commentary that it is so unusual to encounter an Iris garden where all the Iris seem so well grown and vigorous. My first and last impression of the Annand's lovely garden is that here is one such garden. There was little evidence of disease or problems. The Annands grow a wide range of Irises very well, and it was a pleasure to be invited to share in their garden.

Gold Run Iris Garden

by Joyce Ragle

ON SATURDAY APRIL 27 AT THE 1996 NATIONAL CONVENTION, I boarded one of the buses in Sacramento bound for the Chico area. The first stop was Gold Run Iris Garden on Highway 99 about seventy miles to the north of Sacramento. The garden is owned and operated by Sara Skillin and her daughter Kathy Hutchinson. They grow rice on their farm as a cash crop. Unfortunately the wind was whipping the irises about, as it had the day before. The winds gained intensity as the day progressed. Because of the number of visitors it was hard to move about the guest beds quickly, look and take notes. It was almost impossible to take pictures because of the wind. I was unable to check all the guest irises as carefully as I wished. The whistles to call us back to the buses sounded too soon. Also, I would have liked more time to look at the display of named varieties in blocks, each of which has a different theme. The "Chuck Wagon" block was for irises with food names, the "Guys and Gals" was for irises with people's names, and so on.

Some of the tall bearded iris guests which caught my eye were: SKIPALONG, one of this year's introductions from Joe Ghio, is a mulberry fancy that looked good here and in its home garden; HIGH ENERGY (Mary Dunn '96), with light buff yellow standards and white falls with a nice red plicata edge, nicely ruffled; PINK CHARMING (Ghio '93), whose flowers have wonderful form and are light salmon pink with just the edges marked with heather. SKYLARK'S SONG (Schreiner's '96), listed as CC 126-A in the convention booklet, is a fine white and sky blue amoena

with just about everything: large flowers, width and ruffling of petal with semi-flaring falls, good branching and lots of buds. Its parentage is OVERNIGHT SENSATION X SILVERADO; JAZZ ME BLUE (Schreiner's '93), one of Schreiner's fine medium blues, was also good. OMINOUS STRANGER (Innerst '93), with pale yellow standards, slightly smoked, falls the same with a narrow smoky purplish brown edge and pattern at gold beard, flowers slightly ruffled, good purple based foliage, had well branched stalks here and in other gardens. KISS THE DAWN (Fred Kerr '94), with standards reddish orchid, falls apricot trimmed the same, was a pretty sight with its ruffled flowers and branched stalks everywhere seen. FASHION DESIGNER (Keppel '95) is a lovely fringed and ruffled creation in peaches and cream which was showing off in this garden and others. JURASSIC PARK (Larry Lauer '95), the huge bicolor which won the President's Cup for Larry, was flaunting its yellow standards and violet falls at Gold Run and I also noticed it at Betty Ford's. It only has five or six of these huge blooms on a stalk, but what blooms! PACIFIC DESTINY (Lauer '93), a beautiful branched iris close to true medium blue, and SPEED LIMIT (Lauer '92), a deep violet with a white zonal patch on the falls, well branched (and one of the best rebloomers) were also performing well. BALTIC STAR (Harold Stahly '94), was a little different with purplish black standards, filled with a fancy purple pattern in center, widely edged purplish black and good branching.

Seedling (90 47) of Allan Enslinger got my attention (even though I am not partial to variegated varieties) with its standards striped red violet and yellow and its falls lavender with golden tan hafts, yellow edge and splashed and striped overall with red violet; the flower shape is nothing special and the clone is short on branching and bud count, but these variegated ones are popular with the general public.

We had a relatively new hybridizer, Chun Fan, on our bus. It was fun to see the "proud papa" beam when he saw one of his hybrids, MAGIC PALETTE (a yellow and red brown plicata, registered but not introduced), performing well.

Since I am working at breeding median irises, perhaps I spent more time than others would examining the median guests.

ORINOCO FLOW (C.E.C. Bartlett '93) was listed in the convention booklet as a tall bearded, but in the AIS registrations and introductions as border bearded. This 1994 British Dykes Medal winner looks to be a small tall bearded, rather than a BB, but it is a nice one, with heavily ruffled white petals; the standards, hafts and top edge of the falls are stitched deep violet blue with a deep violet blue beard. FOLK MUSIC (A & D Willott '94) is an intermediate bearded iris of pink with blue beards and a blue flush up the midrib of the standards; it makes a nice clump and stays in proportion. Another of Willotts' varieties, WINGS OF LOVE, an intermediate introduced in 1993, is a ruffled mid salmon pink with orange red beards tipped pale blue. It also was in proportion, floriferous and performing excellently in the Napa Country Garden. LASTING MEMORY (Ken Fisher '94) is a miniature tall bearded iris with two toned purple petals and an orange beard. MARGARET BEAUFORT (Lucy Burton '94) is a border bearded iris with rosy violet petals with texture veining and lemon beards. Marky Smith's 90-26E is a nice deep violet and white plicata intermediate with up to eight buds per stalk and floriferous, but one or two stalks in the clump were too tall. Last but not least, LEMON POP (Lauer '90) a lemon yellow intermediate Award of Merit winner, was showing off.

Others could be mentioned, but because of insufficient notes nothing specific could be said about them.

The Hill Garden

by Karen Bergamo

THE HILL GARDEN WAS APPROPRIATELY NAMED. OUR TOUR group entered this lovely garden by a short walk up a grapevine lined driveway. The cactus garden was delightfully different. Damon Hill has a variety of large and unusual cactus. The cactus are a perfect foil for the rest of the area. The stark simplicity of the spiny plants are a contrast to the green, verdant, colorful, lush garden area around them.

There were two seedlings that caught my eye. EJ 3-22-93 had orange beards ending in purple horns. Quite striking. ED 14-12-91 was a huge purple flower, very tall and well branched. Damon

Hill's arilbred seedling bed was a delight to the eye as well. It was a bit late for the best viewing of these seedlings, but I could see I had missed some interesting arilbreds.

One of the first irises I noticed was an "oldie but goodie". CIRCUS STRIPES (Gordon Plough '76). This probably takes full points for distinctiveness. It is a recognizable flower in any garden. This clump of flowers was growing straight, tall, strong and lovely. White standards are edged richly veined campanula violet. Falls are white with overall veining of the same rich campanula violet. It made a striking show.

GNU AGAIN (Kasperek '94) was a unique treat. This unusual flower is a lovely lightly ruffled medium blue violet with darker splotches, topped off by an orange beard tipped blue violet. Quite different!

A lovely pink caught my eye. PINK CHARMING (Ghio '93), was a light pink with plicata falls and a bright tangerine beard.

IN REVERSE, a Joe Gatty TB by Keith Keppel ('93), was a beautiful reverse bi-tone. Columbine blue standards top the pale white falls.

Hooker Nichols' RIVER JORDAN ('96) was a large clump of ruffled blue flowers with gold beards, growing and showing very well.

TEMPTING (Ghio '92), has pink standards and reddish-purple falls edged pink with red beards, making this a very tempting selection indeed.

Schreiner's THUNDER MOUNTAIN ('89) reminds us that Schreiner's really "do" blue. This deep, rich royal blue purple self was a really good looking, delightful clump of flowers.

CAPTAIN'S JOY (Schreiner's '94) has blue standards with darker navy blue falls. It is ruffled and beards are tipped yellow. It was a lovely flower.

Larry Lauer's ICED TEA ('94) was exquisite. It has standards of bronzed tan with falls of violet. The gold beard tipped bronze is an added attraction.

One of Schreiner's newer ones, CARNIVAL SONG ('94) put on a beautiful show. Standards are a peachy pink with violet

infusion at the midribs. Falls are peach with dark rich magenta stitching. Add the tangerine beards and you have a striking plicata in the garden.

DELIRIOUS (Maryott's '87) was a good looking heavily laced rich orchid with tangerine beards. Twelve flowers were in bloom in this clump. It was growing well and looked wonderful.

Medians are a favorite of mine and I saw some great ones. IGNITION (Stahly '89), a border bearded, was a deep violet with a red beard. It was ruffled and had wonderful color contrast. LENORA PEARL, a Border Bearded by Hooker Nichols, was its usual luscious lovely pink self. I have seen it perform nicely in numerous gardens. BOTTLED SUNSHINE (Nichols '95), an IB, has aureolin standards, white falls, deeper aureolin on edge, ruffled with gold beards. Quite, quite lovely.

There was much more to see in the Hill's garden than iris. Admittedly, this is the main focus, but it is always interesting to see the other things people grow. Edwin, Elyse and Damon obviously have far reaching interests in the garden. Strolling through the shaded area I saw strawberries, hostas, columbines, clematis, primroses, begonias, oxallis, foxglove, violas, daylilies, gazanias, heuchera, calla lilies and *I. japonica*. It was a wonderful view, something lovely growing everywhere. Sitting on the patio was delightful, not only a feast for the palate but a feast for the eye as well.

I saw a few Louisianas in bloom. FULL ECLIPSE (Hager '77) was a rich dark violet. It was big, beautiful and showy. There were two PCIs that I noted as well. CACHE CREEK (Rigby '93) was white with a pale blue cast set off by a small light yellow signal. It was very subtle and special. I had seen Joe Ghio's MISSION SANTA CLARA in his garden. This 1993 introduction is drop dead gorgeous. Crimson with buff-red edges, falls are set off by a violet signal. It is a "stand out" flower. It was performing its magic in this garden as well. One of the pleasures of this Sacramento trip was being able to see the PCI's.

There was just time to thank the Hill family for the opportunity to share the beauty and hospitality of their garden when we had to leave. It was a beautiful space in time to be treasured.

Lauer's Flowers

by Phillippa Alvis

THE LAST DAY OF THE GARDEN TOURS IN SACRAMENTO DAWNED beautiful—and windy, again! Our bus was headed south to tour the gardens of the Stockton area with our final stop for the day at the garden of Larry and Marcy Lauer. Larry was standing in the shade of a long avenue of trees that lined his driveway, ready to greet each of us individually with a welcome and a handshake as we stepped off the bus. The canopy of mature trees around the house and shading the yard was very impressive, and I'm sure that they helped to modify the wind that had been whipping the area for four days.

I headed off to the garden with Larry to take a look at his new raised beds. Some beds actually had wood edging while others were mounded to a height of 12 to 14 inches above the ground. His decision to raise the beds where the guest iris were planted came about because of excess ground water after winter and spring rains during the last few years. His property is located in a very flat area of the valley that appears to be naturally sub-irrigated, and winter rains do not drain off quickly enough for the rhizomes. He used soaker hoses successfully to irrigate the new beds later in the spring and the arrangement will lend itself well to drip installation in the future. Another bonus of the elevated beds is that the blooms are raised to eye level for better viewing, he noted. All in all, he considers this planting method very successful and will continue to use it.

By this last day of tours, my head was full of irises and my eyes were almost glazed, but a few of the beauties still caught my attention. I found myself drawn this year to many of the rose toned blooms, especially the ruffled rosy pink ANYTHING GOES ('95), TB by Ben Hager. The deeper rose falls that are veined from the throat two-thirds down the petal are set off by tangerine beards. Very nice. Another Hager TB creation, GLAD HEART was a huge light pinkish with a rosy midrib flush and violet falls—a standout in the rosy pinky mauve colors that I liked. Keith Keppel's TB MASTER PLAN ('95), purplish rose standards with slight cream infusion at the base and falls with ½

inch purplish rose border and cream to ivory ground with a smashing brick red beard, of course, will be one that I can't live without. It still looked good despite the week's disastrous winds that had gusts up to 40 m.p.h. at times.

Joe Ghio's DAWNING ('95), a ruffled and laced lemon yellow TB with a blush of pinky orange at the base of the standards and lemon yellow falls blending to pinky shoulders, was putting on a good show. Ghio's new TB, ENHANCEMENT ('96), was a gorgeous yellow, very ruffled and laced and huge. The white area on the falls at the tip of the yellow beard gives it a pizzazz and difference from the other yellows in the gardens. I counted eight buds on a well branched stalk that allowed blooms to show off individually.

The weather around Stockton—as with other California sites—had been a mixed bag this year, and the irises were totally confused, Larry commented. A warm winter started stalks developing, then cold spells slowed down the growth playing havoc with buds, especially in some varieties like Larry's TB SPEED LIMIT ('92). It still managed to develop a good sized clump with blooms of medium blue standards highlighted with a white spot and falls the same with a white beard. Larry's own LEMON POP ('90), an IB, has been a favorite of mine with its perky lemon yellow blooms and white beards tipped yellow. Here in its home ground, however, the two-year clump did not have as many bloom stalks as I've seen in other plantings—possibly another victim of the unusually mild winter which can adversely affect the production of bloom stalks.

BOTTLED SUNSHINE ('95), IB by Hooker Nichols, was at the end of its very early bloom. According to Lauer, it was one of the first to bloom and continued steadily for about three weeks with all stalks holding flowers above the foliage. Carol Lankow's IB, LEMON WHIP ('93), white standards with yellow falls rimmed in white, was loaded with buds.

George Sutton's TB seedling C 24 RRI was another eyecatcher, a lavender with purple lined falls and a $\frac{3}{16}$ inch purple rim. A horned TB iris, Sutton's G 8 BRSA, a TB, was full of buds along with the first few blooms. Standards are lemony yellow; falls have

a creamy center with gold surround set off by a gold beard and pointed horns of yellow-gold. This will be a 1997 introduction under the name of GOLDFINGER. The many horned iris popping up in all guest plantings this year should make novelty collectors happy. PAINT IT BLACK (Schreiners '94) TB was showing lots of color in the huge buds giving promise of another big black, but we were a couple of days too early to enjoy the blooms that were to come. Larry's TB '94 introduction, STRICTLY BALLROOM, was living up to expectation with three opened blooms—white standards and medium blue falls undertoned lavender with white beards tipped lavender. Watch this one!

The bus captain's whistle called weary conventioners from the chairs that had been thoughtfully placed throughout the garden and from the growing fields in back of the house. The usual complaints were heard that we needed more time as we thanked Larry and Marcy for their warm hospitality and the pleasant visit to the pastoral setting of their home and garden—a fitting finale to the garden tours at this 1996 convention.

Napa Country Iris Gardens

by Clive Russell

YOU WOULD THINK THAT HAVING BEEN ROUTED OUT OF BED each day since Tuesday at the unearthly hour of 5:00AM to catch buses to all points north, south, east and west; that by Saturday I would have become somewhat acclimatized to early mornings. Not a bit of it! Dozing blissfully as the bus turned into the Napa Country Iris Gardens of John and Lesley Painter, and struggling to open one eye in an attempt to regain consciousness, I was stirred from my stupor not by the thought of hot coffee, juice, fruit and cookies, but by the vision of neatly regimented beds containing the irises we had all come to see.

John and Lesley Painter moved to their 40 acre property on Steele Canyon Road, Napa, and completed their house in 1986, but it was not until 1989, when visiting an iris grower in Sacramento, that Lesley got "hooked". The iris plantings currently

boast some 500+ varieties in addition to the 300+ convention guest irises, and are all situated on a gentle northwest facing slope to the south of the house.

The beds are neatly arranged with grass walkways all around, facilitating access from all sides, and (as with all guest irises at this convention,) clear labeling. Even the drip irrigation was perfectly arranged, so that the pipes were easily seen and readily avoided. And the irises? A little later would have been preferable, but they were beautifully grown with no evidence of disease or bug damage.

Having a penchant for Space Agers, I was particularly looking forward to seeing some of George Sutton's new seedlings. Sadly, the anticipation was not matched by the actuality, as in this garden the spikes had yet to bloom. Other than KALIFA'S HORN, there were no SA's in evidence, and I had to wait for another venue before getting my "fix".

Lilly Gartman's seedling G89-20BO was a vivid ruffled and laced orange with a small white blaze below the strong dark orange beard. I must keep an eye open for its introduction and get a piece to see how well it will do here in England. Oranges are not our best growers, and we desperately need something to fill the gap. OLYMPIC CHALLENGE is the best to date, but the stems just will not stand up to our weather.

The irises were arranged alphabetically by hybridizer, and moving on, the next varieties to catch my eye were Brad Kasperek's TIGER HONEY and BABOON BOTTOM. Much has been said about the Kasperek's colour breaks, but although they are currently deemed "novelty" irises, I have no doubt that in the fulness of time, especially as Brad did not lose sight of the requirement of bud count and branching when selecting for introduction, they will become "accepted", and be the standard to which the next generation of colour break hybridizers will refer.

Keppel followed Kasperek, and I noted CLASSMATE ('90) one of the forerunners of Keith's pastel line, and seedling 89-99A. This is a darker version of his aptly named TWILIGHT BLAZE ('91) being a dark purple self with orange beards. Both varieties had good branching and plenty of buds, and 89-99A is another

seedling for whose introduction I must keep an open eye.

At this point I must have doubled back on myself to see Lauer's JURASSIC PARK ('95). This is a bicolour of yellow-buff standards and mauve falls, not dissimilar to EDITH WOLFORD. It was blooming well in all the gardens in which it was guesting, and deservedly went on to win the President's Cup at the Awards Banquet.

By this time we had been at the garden for more than 50 of our allotted 60 minutes, and I had seen neither the stock plantings, nor the Painters' own seedling bed, let alone done anything to satisfy the inner man. Seedlings being more important, I headed in that direction, and of the few in bloom (although there was evidence of plenty to come), I liked L94-2 (BEST BET x TWIST OF FATE) a bicolour of buff standards flushed light violet and falls of a dark velvety violet.

As the whistle blew calling us back to our bus, I dashed up the hill towards the back of the house to get some sustenance before we all headed on to the next garden, and was stopped in my tracks by the number of hummingbirds hovering around the feeder hanging from the corner of the house. Hummingbirds do not exist in the UK, and although I had seen them on TV documentaries, I had no idea how small they were. Riveted by their actions, I forwent food, and eventually reluctantly climbed aboard the bus.

Thank you John and Lesley for a delightful visit to a lovely garden. Would that I could grow my irises as well as you grow yours!

Owens Iris Gardens

by Eleanor Fink

THE SKIES WERE CLEAR AND THE EARLY MORNING SUN BRIGHT, as we departed Sacramento for the Convention gardens around Chico. Our drive through the agricultural northern Sacramento valley was a bit of paradise for this old farm boy. As we approached Chico, large groves of almond (pronounced with a silent l by the local folks) trees became increasingly common. The growing and processing of almonds has been an important industry here for

over a hundred years.

The rural atmosphere of Chico enveloped me in a feeling of “home”. As the bus traveled down the city streets lined with the typical rural hodge-podge of houses, I began wondering how well the Owen Gardens would fit this setting. Imagine my surprise when the bus pulled up at what appeared to be a rural community park. I was overcome by a sense of panic as I struggled with the challenge of describing the pleasurable visual impact of numerous iris beds arranged among the trees and neatly trimmed natural grass.

Bill and Cloudia Owen have converted a 3 ½ acre almond grove into gardens which both involve and enhance the community. They started by securing the assistance of a landscape student from Butte College in designing the arrangement of the iris beds within the garden. Next, a local company was enlisted to provide a grouping of decorative ponds to use as a focal point in the front beds. I was especially touched by the contribution of students from Partridge Elementary. They decorated both the “trash” barrels and the aprons worn by the ladies assisting with the refreshments with brightly colored iris. What a lovely “community” garden!

At the entrance to the garden, a line of square iris beds formed the perfect visual platform for the long rectangular beds radiating out in a symmetrical fan. Bill and Cloudia planted this portion of the garden with their sales stock. While some of the iris are for their small carriage trade, most are donated to Region 14 for fund raisers. Many of the irises weren't in bloom yet, but a large planting of DAZZLING GOLD (Anderson '81) attracted a lot of attention.

The guest beds, with their wide grassy walkways, were located in the middle of the garden. Here too the bloom rate was around 50%, but those in flower put on quite a show. I knew I didn't have enough time to evaluate all the iris so I decided to concentrate on the many guest seedlings. First, two of George Sutton's healthy seedlings caught my eye. He had several very nice space agers and of those I liked the tall, well branched G-17-AR best. The flower is a pleasing blend of hyacinth and wisteria blues with the

standards and uniform flounces a little deeper shade than the falls. The other, C-24 IR, was a cheery, distinctive plicata with "stripes"! The clean light lavender standards rested gracefully on white falls heavily striped and edged in a medium shade of red violet. There were two more seedlings from this cross and all of them had garden appeal.

Roris Gardens

by Bernie Baughen

AS THE BUS DREW INTO THE PARKING LOT AT RORIS GARDENS I noted the time—11:55AM. It was the final day of the Convention tours and everyone aboard was itching to get to see the irises. It was then that our bus captain announced we would be lunching here and we were to be back on the bus at 2:00PM! I had been invited to put together a piece on Roris Gardens for the Region 14 Bulletin but it was clear that I would only be able to give brief details of what I was about to see, so please bear with me if this review is sketchy. Roris was the largest of the tour gardens visited and needed at least four uninterrupted hours close inspection, and in fact I would have been happy to spend a full day there.

At the front of the nursery and opposite the parking lot, we were presented with a magnificent array of colour, with perhaps $\frac{3}{4}$ acres of bearded irises displayed in beds representing the main stock for sale. These irises were mainly late 1970s and 1980s TB introductions, and included many that compare favourably with present day varieties. All looked very healthy and neatly tended, and I was impressed with the labeling—at the end of each row the name was easy to read which must be helpful to visitors.

The Gardens are divided into three sections. First, the front attraction of the display beds which I have mentioned, then the centre area that included the guest iris beds, and finally the back field. The centre area is reached by crossing a wooden footbridge over a small creek that meanders its way across the property. The creek is shaded by trees and provides some shelter from the rigors of the sun. On the banks a mature clump of *Iris pseudacorus* paraded its yellow bloom, making a lovely setting to sit by and relax. But, there was no time to relax! A nice idea to add to the

bank side was the planting of American Dykes Medal winners from 1927 to the present day. It was most interesting to see the progress of development of bearded irises over the years. The Dykes Medal display beds, set in double rows, followed the curve of the creek, a nice touch. You should remember that there are also British Dykes Medal winners (as well as others), and perhaps a planting of these British irises would add an extra dimension to the display and highlight the different tastes iris lovers have.

In the centre area, behind the Dykes Medal display beds were the guest beds for the Convention. The main attractions of course were besieged by delegates and though I had made a bee line for the area on arrival it was impossible to make a front row viewing of the irises in the time allocated. So, I explored the other features of Roris, keeping an eye open for any dispersal of people around the guest beds, so that I could quickly nip in and take advantage of the gap. I was able to get to close quarters with some of the irises and made notes of a few of those that stood out for me. Before I mention particular named varieties, I have listed the hybridizer and year of registration in parentheses, not the year of introduction. My reason for doing so is to help readers find further information in the 'Registrations and Introductions' booklets published by the AIS.

Of the bearded irises I liked: CLASSIC LOOK (Schreiner's, R'92), blue and clean white plicata, and so aptly named; IN THE MOOD (Schreiner's, R'94), with its gorgeous pink blooms set on strong well branched stems; QUITO (Ghio, R'92), coppery orange self, heavily ruffled and laced, sporting a bright orange beard; LIGHTNING BOLT (Ghio, R'93), a striking mulberry wine colour, the falls shot through with blue veining, and a vivid red beard that is simply electric; in contrast the much more subdued CHAMPAGNE WISHES (Keppel, R'91), a nicely ruffled peachy pink with the falls more salmon pink and a bright red-orange beard; and HAIL THE CHIEF (L. Gartman, R'94) was also a good stand out in deep purple complete with purple beard. All these varieties were of good strong substance and branching. I would be proud to add them to my collection.

The spurias which attracted my attention were: LADY

BUTTERFLY (C. Jenkins, R'94), a pale yellow self with yellow signal and heavy ruffling; ORO DE SONORA (F. Wickenkamp R'90), tall, nicely ruffled gold with a narrow orange stripe on the falls; and WYOMING COWBOYS (F. Wickenkamp R'94) another gold, striped brown with deeper brown rim on the falls, and style arms tipped brown.

Louisianas showed well too, but I am afraid time ran out and I failed to collect the names of those that caught my eye.

Bill and Eleanor Fink had very kindly offered to take me to see Bob and Mary Dunn's garden which I had missed earlier in the week, so I had arranged that I would not be rejoining the bus at 2:00PM. I thought that I would then be able to have more time to see the guest beds. But, when I returned to the guest beds, the crowd around was just as thick. I gave up, deciding to explore the rest of the nursery, and found the back field where Roris grow their new irises. This was most interesting and gave me a foretaste of tomorrow's promising newcomers.

For anyone who has not visited Roris, I would recommend a trip in high season; there is a lot to see, but do allow at least four hours, if not the whole day to make it really worthwhile.

Thank you Region 14 and the AIS for the warmth and generosity of all who made this a thoroughly enjoyable Convention, but please next time, give us more time in the gardens and less on the roads, even if it means reducing the number of gardens to visit. I am still getting my breath back!

Stockton Gardens

by Richard Ernst

REALIZING THERE MIGHT BE A CROWD ON MY DESIGNATED TOUR day, I made a pre-convention trip to Stockton Gardens. I was early, yes, but the trip was certainly a good move. Clear blue skies and warm temperatures were bringing the flowers along nicely.

I must mention that over the past three years, this garden has undergone a metamorphosis and major revitalization. An old shed was removed and a nice green lawn fills its space. The rose garden behind the house is beautiful, and rock-bordered pathways wind through the property.

A number of larger "misplaced" trees have been removed, opening the garden to more light and transforming a dark jungle into a lovely, airy, sunny garden. It appears as much of the old "stuff" that was salvageable was retained, while newer plant material has been added, especially some newer roses. The entire grounds were nicely kept and well groomed for the convention.

Official guest irises of note are as follows: WISHFUL THINKING (Keppel '96) has standards of light violet blue with violet veining. The falls are a pale blue with light blue beards. The flower is nicely ruffled with six buds typical. This very early variety was growing well. Tom McGee's ACOMA ('90) was in fine form with excellent flowers and branching by which other irises are judged. Its delicate violet blue plicata coloring is quite pleasing.

NIGHT GAME (Keppel '96) is a sultry, velvet purple blended near black on the center fall. Bright orange beards stand out well and make this one of the eye catchers from across the garden. HOLLYWOOD MARQUEE (Nichols) is a deep blue violet self with light to medium blue beards. Nine buds and an extra lower branch make for a magnificent display of ruffled, perfectly formed flowers. FOREIGN STATESMAN (Innerst '93), is a very dark violet blue self with blue beards. Wide falls have great ruffling and flare to nearly horizontal.

LA MER (G. Richardson '94) is a near blue amoena. The standards are a very pale blue, nearly white, with a blue flush up the midrib. The falls are a medium blue, paling to a lighter shade at the edges, smoothly blended. Flowers are over six inches across. Light blue beards are yellow in the throat. The styles are notable in that they are near white on the crests, but the stigmatic lips are blue like the center fall. Excellent branching and seven buds.

MELTED BUTTER (Chun Fan '94) is a very pleasant combination of clean, nearly white standards with a slight yellow flush up the midrib, blending to cream, then white. The falls have a touch of butter yellow on the lower edge. Coloration is mainly creamy white with yellow veining and yellow beards. Shouldering is butter yellow stretching halfway down the falls. It exhibits excellent branching and growth habits.

Valley Gardens

by Bill Reinhart

NOT HAVING DEVELOPED A TASTE FOR PLANKTON, THIS NATIVE Californian arrived at Valley Gardens in schizophrenic confusion. A gem set in a recently developed residential mounting, this attractive contemporary Victorian home is also an example of the viral urge to cap country in concrete. Yet, who would not trade urban blight for suburban delights all things being equal? Tastefully painted in rich honey-earth and trimmed in muted mauves, the house has magnetic curb appeal. With the structure set far enough back from the street to allow proper perspective, with planting swathes and pockets thoughtfully placed, the youthful landscaping has the potential for graceful aging.

Raised beds on the eastern and western property lines and the beds at the foundation and entrance to the home host such California classic plant material as agapanthus, birch, crape myrtle, hemerocallis, miniature roses, morea, and raphiolepis. The *Abelia grandiflora* is very complementary in its natural form. Pansies, gerberas and feverfew add texture and color as do unidentified *I. germanica* wondrously clothed.

Central to the design is a placid pool and a garnish of grass. Surrounding these were the iris beds and on the southern end a spacious terrace providing a beckoning transition between house and garden. On the east side were fountains, stone benches, statuary, privet, and in the southeast corner a turret-like aviary. Here a Budgie coifed Rodman red held audiences. His malevolent stare was not unlike that of Demented Dennis either.

Long a card-carrying celebrant of Gibson plicatas, I applaud Rick Ernst's nurture of the Gibson lines and Joe Ghio and Keith Keppel for basing some of their lines on Gibson genes. LIGHTNING STREAK (Gibson/Cooley '92) with searing yellow ground plicated with redbrown bolts is guaranteed to brighten the corner. QUITO (Ghio '93) was most photogenic. A copper-orange self with violet flashed falls, it was of superlative Ghio form.

(Continued on page 43)

Betty Ford Garden

PHOTO BY ROBERT PLANK



PHOTO BY LOWE

Begley Garden

"Now go to your room!"

(Editor—I made that up.)

Jim Begley gives directions to a visitor.

PHOTO BY LOWE



F & L Garden

The wind was
whistling in the
valley gardens.



Laver's Garden

Raised beds meet conventioners part way.



Napa Valley Garden

A cool early morning haze hangs over the valley to greet conventioners. Lush growth epitomized!



Owens Garden


Jim Morris spots photographer Mike Lowe who catches George Sutton explaining the finer points of horned iris to Bruce Conner.

(Continued from page 40)

Among the iris skipping along this rainbow was the patriotic space ager STARS AND STRIPES (Byers/Dickey '92) a near-white violet bitone with red-tipped white beards and violet appendages. One of Jim McWhirter's last and best, TELEGRAPH HILL ('94) is distinctive with a white wire edge on the falls of a ruffled mid blue self. WENCH (L. Miller '93), a pink and plum bicolor with pink edge and patterning, has been very popular with Southern California irisarians. HONKY TONK BLUES (Schreiner '88) was blooming. I have loved this mottled hyacinth blue self since Memphis.

Two varieties in the same color family are RAMBLING ROSE (Schreiner '93) and MALLOW DRAMATIC (Gatty/Keppel '96). Ray Schreiner has had several keepers in this color range in recent years and this raspberry rose is no exception. The aptly named hollyhock hue Gatty progeny has a blue haze to buoy tangerine beards. Pretty! HOT GOSSIP (Blyth '92/'93) is a buff pink, lavender pink bitone with red beards.

The most refreshing "new kid on the block" is Brad Kasperek. You should read the incisive editorial comments in his catalog. While BABOON BOTTOM doesn't do anything for me (the name does not fit), the name has had great promotional value. However, the Kasperek cultivar with the most long term commercial appeal appears to be TIGER HONEY (Kasperek '94). It could be described a butterscotch and yellow bitone striped and streaked in gold, caramel and white. A boutique fabric, it is deceptively durable.

It has been often quoted, usually by overweight men, that "the way to a man's heart is through his stomach". Conversely, it can also be paraphrased that "men can not be fed on bread alone". The repast provided by Scott and Elaine Reed of soothing scents, sights and sounds feeds the senses. 

The garden reports on pages 19, 20, 25, 27, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 are reprinted with permission from AIS Region 14 Bulletin. Volume XL, Number 2, July 1996.

Membership Contest

1996

THE 1996 MEMBERSHIP CONTEST FOLLOWS THE SAME RULES AS those used in 1995. Three separate and distinct awards will be presented at the 1997 Convention—one to the youth, one to the adult and one to the affiliate with the most total points. A minimum of 30 points is necessary to qualify for the award. Certificates of achievement will be awarded to individual youths, adults and affiliates in each region who participate. Names of the award and certificate winners will be published in the future.

Each affiliate must decide whether its members will participate as individuals or as a group.

Point Scale:

- 10 points for each new single annual membership
- 10 points for each new youth member added to an existing adult membership
- 15 points for each new dual annual membership
- 20 points for each new single triennial 25 points for each new dual triennial
- 25 points for each new youth member registered as a solitary member

The following points will be given for conversion from annual to triennial membership, providing the membership has been in effect for a minimum of one year.

- 10 points for converting from single triennial to dual triennial
- 15 points for converting from single annual to single triennial
- 25 points for converting from dual annual to dual triennial 100 points for each single life membership 150 points for each dual life membership

Rules:

1. Membership application and payment of dues are made directly to the AIS Membership Secretary and may be submitted by the recruiter or by the new member.
2. The RVP or Membership Chairman of the contestant's Region and the AIS Contest Chairman (Lynda S. Miller, 3167 E. U.S. 224, Ossian, IN 46777) should be notified by the recruiter within 30 days.
3. Each new membership should be reported on separate 3 x 5 cards. The following information is needed: the name, complete address and region number of the new member; the type of membership or conversion—annual, triennial, or life; the name, address, and region of the recruiter. Only those memberships reported correctly will be awarded points.
4. Renewal of memberships following a lapse of two years will count as new members.
5. New memberships received by the Membership Contest Chairman postmarked after October 1, 1996 cannot be counted for the 1996 contest but will be automatically credited to the recruiter for the 1997 contest.

Alfalfa

The Magic Elixir of Plant Life

by Terry Aitken, WA

SOME TEN YEARS AGO, WE IN REGION 13 WERE TREATED to a display of spectacular iris culture in Elmer Price's garden in Tacoma, WA. Alfalfa was the cause. Earlier this year, during the Region 15 Spring Trek in Tucson, Arizona, we were once again treated to spectacular garden culture in the Gail Barnhill garden. Once again, alfalfa was the magic ingredient. In the intervening years, our own use of this soil additive has increased to over four tons (3600 kg) per year, applied to approximately two acres (8 hectares) of ground in which we have been planting intensively in irises for about fifteen years.


Alfalfa, like many other forms of compost, adds humus to the soil which enhances plant growth in almost any type of soil from the acidic rain leached soils of the northwest to the sandy, granular, alkaline soils of the arid southwest. What makes alfalfa special is a chemical called TRIACONTANOL which is a growth stimulant. In discussion with other people, several other theories have been presented. Some or all of them may be a factor. When any form of raw vegetative matter is added to the soil, decomposition occurs which generates heat. Warmer soils, relatively speaking, would stimulate root growth. Another theory suggests that fermentation of vegetative material generates alcohol, another growth stimulant. (I would be delighted to hear from any reader who would feed their freshly transplanted iris a bottle of wine, or unpasteurized beer—just no end of joy!)

Alfalfa (*medicago sativa*) is readily available from local feed stores in several forms. Meal is a finely ground powder form. Rabbit feed is a compressed pelletized form which expands dramatically when wet. Horse cubes are coarsely compressed into two inch (50 mm) squares. Perhaps even bails of alfalfa would work, but I have not tried this, nor heard of anyone else doing so.

The meal or pellets are easiest to work with. They come in fifty pound or eighty pound bags (23 – 36 kg). A fifty pound bag will cover about five hundred square feet (46 sq. meters).

We add alfalfa to our soils annually at transplant time, and rototill it into the top six to eight inches (150 – 200 mm) of the root zone. We plant immediately. The plants seem to establish a new root system very quickly and do not put up top growth. (This is important when the plants are trying to go dormant for the winter.) Since the value of most compost is used up within the year, an annual application is important. It can be added as a top dressing or applied as a soil drench as “alfalfa tea”. We have also applied a handful of alfalfa meal around the base of reluctant spring starters which seems to be a benefit before bloom time.

The latest breaking rumor on the alfalfa story suggests that it may also be a factor in reducing crown rot. Since much of crown rot is caused by late spring freezes fracturing tender early growth, there may be some relationship. Alfalfa is a low nitrogen fertilizer, and nitrogen applied too early (before bloom) is frequently the culprit in crown rot.

If readers have other thoughts or experiences with alfalfa they would like to share, drop a line to your editor. 

NOTICE

**The Iris Pond in McLean, VA,
will no longer sell irises by mail
or issue a price list.**

**We may from time to time offer new
introductions, but this will be done
only through ads in the AIS Bulletin.**

Contemporary Views

1994 & 1995, Part 2

by Perry Dyer

Editors Note:

This is the second half of a two part article. This part includes Perry Dyer's reviews of Median and Beardless Irises. The first part in the July '96 Bulletin included reviews of Tall Bearded Irises.

Medians

Miniature Tall Bearded: PARDNER (Fisher '93) made a very impressive clump in Oregon; very floriferous with stalks spaced nicely throughout the clump. It retained its daintiness in spite of "ultimate" cultural conditions. Standards are a blend of honey to old gold. Falls are a dusky red with a precise, narrow gold rim. REMINISCENCE (Mahan '94) has been consistent in many different climate zones and growing conditions. Standards are a warm violet, the falls with more a plum influence. White haft markings are attractive rather than distracting. The entire flower possesses a glow that is, unfortunately, all too rare in this class of iris. High quality, from the high-quality cross: (CONSUMMATION X ROSEMARY'S DREAM).

Border Bearded: Several very promising varieties have been released recently. HULA HOOP (Shoop '95), seen in Oregon under Seedling #85-34, is an odd color array, even for George Shoop! Standards are light orchid with plum veining and a tan to brown border. Falls are an opalescent mother-of-pearl with some lilac and grey shadings. They then have a distinctive tan band and bright coral-orange beards. Great name! TROPICAL PUNCH (Aitken '94) is a fruity reverse bicolor from the Shoop lines, which the hybridizer cleverly describes as a papaya orange in the falls. They are rimmed in a distinctive melon to purple blended color, which is also the color of the standards. Bright coral beards add to the color splash. Splendid tight form. BIG ISSUE (Burch '94) carries on the color scheme of one of its parents, DARK RITUAL (Hager), with rich

maroon standards atop sultry black falls, overlaid with a dramatic maroon sheen. Excellent proportion throughout. **VERY VARIED** (Ensminger '93) is correctly classified and compact in its body parts. In Oregon it was planted near **BATIK** (Ensminger), and although of similar patterns, the misclassification of **BATIK** stuck out like a sore thumb (and the **BATIK** Fan Club cries, "Fowl! Such heresy!"). **VERY VARIED**'s base color is even richer (approaching black), allowing the white splashes to be even more sizzling. Slender stalks have modified candelabra branching with 3 branches. **MOSTEST** (Durrance '90) is a bedazzled saffron gold, as bold as the rowdy **CURIOUS YELLOW** (Durrance, TB) but in a smaller, simpler flower. Velvety texture. **RED ROOSTER** (Durrance '90) will sometimes grow out of class, but is usually consistent enough to be worthy in your median collection. Compact flowers are a velvety deep garnet to crimson with black undertones. Slender, straight stalks have 4 nicely-placed branches. Simple form with few ruffles (who would want a rooster with ruffles!?). **PUNCH** (Tompkins '89) was different, and I liked it. Basically it is an improved, smoother-hafted **Miss NELLIE** (Burch) with ochre standards and horizontal falls in a vivacious plum, with a sharper look at the smooth hafts. The falls tend to bleed to a lighter blue-lavender edge, which adds to the charisma. The color is then followed with a dark bronze band. It has good plant habits and stalks. **SILKS** (Markham '92) is a diminutive shimmering silky white, nearly **MTB** in size, similar in character to **NEW WAVE** (Hager, **MTB**), but with clean purple-based foliage. Charming, and a pleasant surprise. **BABY GRAND** (D. Meek '94) is a cleverly-named compact reverse blue amoena. The standards are quite dark, heavily infused throughout in inkjet blue. The falls are several degrees lighter, providing a stunning contrast. **APRICOT FROSTY** (Niswonger '92) is the best of the pink amoena BB offshoots. Another well-named one, this billowing apricot-peach amoena has a frothy, frosted finish that adds character and distinctiveness to the display. This one has been in class in the different climates I've observed it, and has outstanding plant habits. I guess **BABOON BOTTOM** (Kasperek '94) wound up being a wee bit controversial. All I can say is, "Lighten up, folks!". A clever splish-splash in a light pink base, it is mischievously streaked and swirled with blotches of everything

from medium pink, old rose, red-purple, to even white. Certainly unusual! The flowers even have a touch of lace. It has smaller flowers, too, *not* a “short tall”. CLASSICS: MAROON BELLS (Magee '76), SHANNON (Wolff '75), STOP FLIGHT (Danielson '77) .

Intermediate Bearded: Although I maintain a rather extensive, modern median collection, NORTHERN JEWEL (Schreiner '91) was a “sleeper” for me. It is a wide glacier white warmed in the heart with yellow shoulders and beards. Magnificent branching and bud count, with doublebudded sockets up and down. A very dependable performer. BLAST (Hager '93) is a howling bicolor that won't be mistaken for any other. Standards are a dazzling apricot orange. Falls are intense, bright magenta, topped with tangerine to fire-engine-red beards. Broad and bold, with outstanding branching inherited from its plicata mom, SHENANIGAN (Keppel). SAILOR (Marky Smith '96) is a sensational new neglecta-plicata, with medium blue standards so heavily saturated they appear solid (only a touch of white showing through). Glistening white falls are heavily banded in deep blue-violet plic stitching, complete with bellystripe tattoo. Form is broad and solid. Branching and bud count are beyond belief. It will be smashing in the garden and on the show bench. FATHOM (Marky Smith '97) is an updated version of SILENT STRINGS (Dyer), complete with deep ruffling and fluting. The form is impeccable, with nicely domed standards with strong midribs, and wide, round falls. Branching and bud count are markedly improved over SILENT STRINGS. The flowers have a fascinating mink texture, usually associated with the deep blues. BOLD STROKE (E. Jones '93) has nice contrast - a soft French blue decked out with an intense indigo-blue (nearly black) beard, inherited from its parent, CODICIL (Innerst). ZING ME (Blyth '90) is a dazzling new color pattern in IB's, with creamy lemon standards, creamy white falls edged lemon, then a deep chocolate brown spot pattern exploding over $\frac{2}{3}$ of the falls. All this is accented with deep chocolate—nearly black beards! Most importantly, it is fertile, and many of us are convinced that this progenitor will be the key to finally pull the elusive pumila spot pattern up into the tall bearded. CLASSICS: LOVER BOY (Ghio '78), RIKKI TIKI (Rogers '76), SCOUT'S HONOR (Gatty '79).

Standard Dwarf Bearded: LOVIN' SPOONFUL (Bausch '92) was the surprise of the decade for me in the medians! Cold, glistening pure white, right down to the self beards, with the magnificent form and substance of its parent, AZURE GEM (Hamblen). It is one of the finest SDBs I have bloomed in years, and I hope more people discover it too. The Portland Joneses have scored a hat trick with their '94 releases: ADVANCE DESIGN (Bennett) is a colorful bicolor, with smoothly blended peach and pink and the standards, contrasted with tawny rust-orange falls which are widely banded in lemon-yellow. Tangerine beards are harmonious with both color schemes. CAPTIVE SUN (Bennett) is a joyous yellow amoena, with purest white standards atop bright canary falls, which are then edged in white. Wonderful form, substance, and brilliance. Sunglasses are required. MORNING'S BLUSH (Evelyn) was my personal favorite of the trio. It has serene elegance; a blending of sherbet-smooth colors with lemon, yellow, orange and rosy pink, with a dynamite carrot-red beard. It tends to be at the top of its class, coming from IB X SDB breeding, but still meets the current criteria for SDBs. and should be a valuable parent. Three new ones from Paul Black continue his tradition for high-quality SDB work: SPIN AGAIN (Black '95) is a clean reverse yellow amoena, with soft light yellow standards and clear white falls with a band of the standards' yellow. Light violet beards are subtle. It has superb form and substance. SWEET BITE (Black '95) is a by-product of his extensive pink work. Smaller flowers are an understated buff-pink, contrasted with muted cocoa spots around the beards. Cute and different. His finest luminata to date, and probably the darkest to make the final cut for introduction, is MIDNIGHT MIST (Black '95), a broad, classy spectrum near-black with a white beard and white luminata spot in the heart of the flower, changing to a dramatic washing over most of the falls. It has impeccable substance, plant habits, and consistency. CLASSICS: BEAU (Gatty '74), CONCORD TOUCH (Willott '74), PET SET (Schmelzer '73), PIXIE PLUM (Hamblen '72), SKY AND SNOW (Warburton '72).

Louisianas

The 1994 season was extremely late for all irises in Oklahoma, and the “mostly beardless” show sponsored by the Sooner State Iris Society in Oklahoma City wound up being “mostly tall bearded”. The Australians, John Taylor and brother-in-law Graeme Grosvenor, of Rainbow Ridge Nursery (whom I was “escorting” for 3 weeks in May) got to return to Blanchard with me for one whole day—right at Louisiana peak—in between the national daylily convention in Florida and the national iris convention in Oregon. John Taylor seemed amazed at the difference in appearance of some of his varieties, a hemisphere away from home. In some cases, however, he claimed some were even better here than in the home garden. The great orchid-like OBVIOUS HEIR ('92), donned in its immaculate white with lacy ruffling, was a special standout. Now he could see, first-hand, why it and the shimmering satin yellow NOBLE PLANET ('91) had done so well in previous “L'Elegante Award” write-ups in *Contemporary Views*.

American Louisianas

CAJUN COOKERY (Hager '90) is one of the most vibrant reds today. A velveteen garnet red with satin-smooth finish, it is totally sunfast. A small yellow line-signal is almost hidden in the plush coloring, giving the appearance of an absolute self. This is a welcome datacomp nice contrast to the bold wide signals which accentuate the great ANN CHOWNING (Chowning) and its derivatives. CHARGE D'AFFAIRE (Dunn '92) combines two relatively new patterns in Louisianas, all into one—a silver halo embedded around plum to violet-blue falls; and falls with a tight ruffling which approaches lace, such as is found in DR. DORMAN (Conger). The halo pattern is becoming more common now, from several hybridizing programs. But the delicate “pinking shears” style of serrating is found on only a handful of cultivars thusfar. It has a rather large flower that is well shaped.

CHERRY CUP (Morgan '89) is one of my favorites from this Arkansas hybridizer, and for me it improves each year I grow it. It is a simply stated bright cherry red, reminiscent of the glorious coloration of the great Army classic, F.A.C. McCULLA, but scaled

down in size and proportion. Definitely a "cheery" cherry, bright and spunky. Another release from Richard Morgan, just now being discovered, is CLOWN ABOUT ('93), a well-named, petite color splash in reds, dusty rose, and golden yellow. Standards are a light red-violet, edged (but not haloed) in yellow. The falls are "inverted" in coloration. basically an old gold to burnished bronze, then washed and edged in medium red to dusty rose. It has to be seen to understand the color pattern, and there's nothing like it on the market! In spite of its huge flower size, the soft colors of DEIRDRE KAY (Granger '91) retain its elegance and sophistication. It is a genteel medley of muted lilac and lavender, blending to soft pink on the edges. Falls are a tone darker, complemented by a diffused cream sunburst ray pattern signal spraying out from the heart of the flower. In some years, the concentration of pink on the edges is further contrasted with a lilac to silver halo, belying its CHARLIE'S MICHELE (Arny) background. The wide flowers are heavily ruffled and crimped, with even some lace to add to its charm. This is a great new iris from the hybridizer who gave us the magnificent '95 Debaillon winner, KAY NELSON (Granger).

The work Mary Dunn is doing in dark tones is without peer, and she has released several dynamic creations in tones of black velvet, plush violets, and blues so deep they approach indigo. To date, my favorite is EXTRAORDINAIRE ('92), certainly appropriately named, for it is truly an extraordinary iris. It has a large flat flower in ravishing *metallic* purple. Yes, it shines in the sunlight. Heavy ruffling and that rare serration come from its pollen parent, CLARA GOULA. The richness and intensification in coloring come from a brilliant combination of BLUE SHIELD (Davis), BLACK WIDOW (MacMillan), and FULL ECLIPSE (Hager). What a star-studded cross! It is in my opinion, the finest release (to date) from this Debaillon winning hybridizer from California. FAR AND AWAY (Dunn '92) is a sib to EXTRAORDINAIRE, but very different, with more of a red underglow against the purple base color and a bit more prominent yellow signal. It has a velvet pile, versus the metallic sheen of EXTRAORDINAIRE. It is another large flower, with heavy ruffling without the serration.

FELICIANA HILLS, from Baton Rouge hybridizer Pat

O'Connor, is a large glowing mallow pink, with rose undertones that enrich the depth of color. It is a strong husky grower, with sturdy tall stalks. Unfortunately it lacks the branching and bud count of many of its contemporaries. But the breeding potential for richer, clearer pinks goes without saying. Another "sleeper" here has been FRINGED GOLD (Shepard '92), hybridized in Phoenix (yes, Louisianas are very popular in both Phoenix and Tucson, in spite of the hot climate). It is a tidy, compact, brick red, delicately haloed in a pure gold; a very unique way to exhibit its contrasting colors, and totally different from other haloes on the market. Further, the *buds* are gold, opening into the stunning red tones. It is well proportioned, with shorter stalks with well positioned branching. A pleasant surprise, one of the best examples of star-signals appearing on all six parts is GEISHA EYES ('90), one of Charlie Arny's last great introductions. Smaller in stature, the flowers are absolutely flat, rounded, and only gently waved, so that the eye is not distracted from viewing the bold yellow signals lying on pure blue-violet, constructed with magnificent branching and plant habits. It is a vigorous grower, but tends to make a highly-desirable compact clump.

To date, the heaviest concentration of the serrated look occurs in GOURMET (Dunn '90), a glowing clean yellow, wide and round, with such heavy ruffling, crimping, and serration that the heart of the flower even appears to be doubling. It is elegance supreme! One of the great "sleepers" from Mary Dunn has been INNER BEAUTY ('91). Nonspectacular here the first couple of seasons, it has "redeemed" itself and become one of my favorites from Mary's breeding. It has another great name—a fully saturated violet, with the "inner beauty" being classy, contrasting soft yellow style arms. Flat flowers enable you to see the color combo even more clearly.

Although most Louisianas bloom and perform well here in central Oklahoma, one of my favorites, the Debaillon winner EASTER TIDE (Arny), unfortunately has a difficult time producing an acceptable stalk. It is very cold-tender here; any hint of a late freeze, and that's it—aborted stalks. JUST HELENE (Mertzweiller '91) seems to be more hardy, and is presented in the same basic

colors, although deeper throughout in saturation. It is a true bicolor in blue-lavender and yellow, with the yellow intricately veined in the blue colors. This is a great new addition to a very limited color class. But for sheer elegance, you still can't beat a good EASTER TIDE! Although most of the Arkansas varieties bloom later in the season for me, KELLEY'S CHOICE (Morgan '93) is one of the first to bloom here. There is simply nothing like it on the market, this color gem is basically a warm yellow, overlaid rose to brick red. As the flower ages and expands, the color pattern *transforms* (not fades) to an old gold with a *plicata* edge in the original overlay color. It is shorter, with tight compact flowers to complement the tidy plant habits.

KENTUCKY CAJUN (Norris '95) is the first tetraploid with a significant degree of ruffling, which is quite a break-through! Broad bold indigo blue is strongly contrasted with bright yellow signals, remindful of those of ANN CHOWNING. As with Dunn's EXTRAORDINAIRE, this great new iris has a scintillating metallic sheen.

LAKE OUACHITA (Morgan '92) is a cute *brevicaulis* hybrid with small, simple light to medium blue flowers displayed on traditional zigzag branching. A proverbial weed, this makes an "instant clump". True to form, the stalks—and the foliage—are shorter. (By the way, it's pronounced "wah'-shih-tah"; an Indian name, and a famous mountain range and lake in west-central Arkansas). OVER THERE (Dunn '92) is the last of a trio of dark-toned Dunn releases to be reviewed this year. It is from a totally different approach to breeding, and has more lime green in the line signal. It too has superb flat form, more moderate ruffling, all presented in a rich full blue-violet. It has excellent color saturation.

PRALINE FESTIVAL (Haymon '92) is totally unique in color, a smooth honey to butterscotch with a green-gold signal that blends in to the color scheme well. In some years, deeper texture veins appear. Thick leathery substance allows flowers to be totally sunfast, even in the humid warm weather of Lafayette. Show stalks supreme, often opening 3 to 4 flowers at a time. Yet it makes a great garden iris too, with its high bud count and superb timing of its buds.

The American review concludes this year with two very special irises from Richard Morgan, Hot Springs, Arkansas. They are

*AIS
Medal
Winners
of 1996*



PHOTO BY MERTZWEILLER

Mary Swords Debaillon Medal (Louisianas)
PROFESSOR JIM (Mertzweiller)



PHOTO BY DAVE NISWONGER

Eric Nies Medal
(Spuria)
CHOCOLATE FUDGE
(Niswonger)

The Medal Winners of 1996



Caparne-Welch Medal (MDB)
CINNAMON APPLES (P. Black)



Cook-Douglas Medal
(Standard Dwarf Bearded)
PUMPIN' IRON (P. Black)



Williamson White Medal (Miniature Tall)
PETITE MONET (K. Williamson)



Clarence G. White Medal (Arl—½ or more Aril)
SYRIAN PRINCESS (H. Shockey)

AIS
Annual
Award



Knowlton Medal
(Border Bearded)
LENORA PEARL (H. Nichols)

Hans & Jacob Sass Medal
(Intermediate Bearded)
LEMON POP (L. Lauer)



John C. Wister Medal (Tall Bearded)
THORNBIRD (M. Byers)

The Medal Winners of 1996

PHOTO BY PAUL BLACK



Caparne-Welch Medal (MDB)
CINNAMON APPLES (P. Black)

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Cook-Douglas Medal
(Standard Dwarf Bearded)
PUMPIN' IRON (P. Black)

PHOTO BY TERRY AITKEN



Williamson White Medal (Miniature Tall Bearded)
PETITE MONET (K. Steele)

PHOTO BY TERRY AITKEN



Knowlton Medal (Border Bearded)
LENORA PEARL (H. Nichols)

PHOTO BY TERRY AITKEN



Hans & Jacob Sass Medal
(Intermediate Bearded)
LEMON POP (L. Lauer)

PHOTO BY H. SHOCKEY



Clarence G. White Medal (Arl—½ or more Aril)
SYRIAN PRINCESS (H. Shockey)

AIS Annual Awards

PHOTO BY TERRY AITKEN



John C. Wister Medal (Tall Bearded)
THORNBIRD (M. Byers)

*AIS
Medal
Winners
of 1996*



PHOTOS BY TERRY AITKEN

***Morgan-Wood
Medal*** (Siberian)

SHAKER'S PRAYER
(C. Warner)



PHOTO BY TERRY AITKEN

***Sydney B. Mitchell
Medal*** (CA)

IDYLVILD
(J. Ghio)

personal favorites here. WILLOW MINT ('94) is a smaller flowered full sulphur yellow, with rich mint green signals and style arms. The outpouring of green from the heart of the flower is the most intense concentration of green to date in any iris. WINDOW SHOPPING ('93) is a bright and bold "variegata" which begs to be mated with the flamboyant bicolors from MARGARET LEE (Taylor). WINDOW SHOPPING has light yellow standards, heavily infused in red in the midribs. Falls are a deep brick to oxblood red, contrasted with light yellow steeple signals. What a rich carnival of colors this is!

Australian Louisianas

CURRENCY (Taylor '94) is totally different from anything we've seen from MARGARET LEE, and proves the diversity this super-parent holds in its genes. Very flat and broad; it is so broad the falls overlap into the standards. The color does vary from season to season and in different soil types, presenting a challenge for the good judge! Basically it is a muted blending of creamy buff, overlaid and veined in pink and, here, copper to old gold. Don't "turn up your noses" - wait until you see it. Very unique, and it "grows on you". DANCING VOGUE (Taylor '94)—Ah! the great one! The closest thing to date in hot pink, but it is more elegant than gregarious. Broad flowers sport ruffles and waves, displayed in voluptuous medium pink with clear yellow signals. Some years (especially if cooler and overcast) the coloration approaches mallow pink. Either way, it's beautiful.

DESIGNER'S DREAM (Taylor '93) is a full yellow with the saturation of APOLLO'S SONG (Taylor), but the overall effect is much more refined and feminine. The texture is more of a silky look rather than leathery. Deep, deep ruffles, so deep you stand amazed that the flowers could ever open properly (but they do). DURAL DREAMTIME (Taylor '93) is an expansive warm white, enriched with lime green to yellow signals and texture veining. A very fluffy look with its deep ruffling.

We waltzed in to the Sooner State show in '95 with a stalk of FASHION WORLD, scheduled for release in '97 by Taylor. It went on to win Best Seedling (the first AIS award for this Aussie, can you believe it?). Well named, it's one of those "designer colors" you just won't find in any color chart! Basically a mauve with pink

undertoning, complemented with yellow signals, presented with a taffeta finish and deeply channeled ruffling, previshly cut into the flower as only an artist could do. Small and tightly constructed, it has excellent rounded form, but with smaller flowers and shorter stalks like *GLADIATOR'S GIFT* (Taylor). A new Taylor introduction that performed very well here as a seedling was *FREEDOM RIDE* ('96). It is a full violet-blue (more blue than violet here) from *MARGARET LEE*. Light blue buds open to the deep toned flowers, which are then embellished with a silver halo. Deep ruffling causes the "undercarriage" color to show through, adding to the mystique of the flower. Further contrast is in the style arms, which are white, gently brushed violet-blue.

GOING SOUTH (Taylor '94) is remindful of a rounder, richer *OUR PARRIS* (Carroll), in large vanilla flowers heavily flushed tan, caramel, and veined mustard. The overall effect from a distance is a caramel to old gold self. Standards are slightly lighter than the falls. It has magnificent plant habits, and is a stronger grower than many *MARGARET LEE* kids. It has show stalks throughout the clump, with double buds at most sockets when well grown. Gently ruffled and waved, this provides a nice change from the deep ruffling of so many of the *MARGARET LEE* offspring.

Another guested Taylor seedling that went on to be named was *GUESSING GAME* ('95). Totally unique in color presentation and texture, it's another one of those *MARGARET LEE* children that has to "grow on you", and that it did! Think of the blue bitone, *COLORIFIC* (Mertzweiller), broad and full. Add a misty, smoky overcast to the entire flower, and you have the basic look. The standards tend to have a mottling which usually varies from flower to flower (hence, one reason for the name). It's not dirty or muddy, but hauntingly beautiful.

HEATHER PRYOR (Taylor '94) also carries a mysterious smoked look to it, but against a creamy pink amoena, rather than blue. It is an eloquent blending of pastels, displayed on broad, heavily ruffled flowers. Incredibly, yet another release from *MARGARET LEE*. It possesses the same aura as another Taylor favorite of mine, which has unfortunately been overlooked, *DAWN PLANET*. From Janet Hutchinson (the breeder of *SOFT LAUGHTER*) we have another

honey-tan blend that is sure to please, HONEY STAR ('93). A vision of health, it has strong plant habits and vigorous increase. Deeper apricot to caramel texture veining adds life to the flower. It too tends to be a bitoned effect, with the standards a tone lighter than the falls.

An overlooked Taylor variety is ICE MAGIC ('92). I thought nothing of it the first two bloom seasons. But the past two seasons it has been superb. It is a warm creamy white, decorated with deeper texture veins throughout the falls. This past season it had more of a silky texture, giving evidence as to why it was so named. It has faultless plant habits, a broad flower with moderate ruffling and an orange to golden signal. Sometimes these Down Under plants need time to "kick in" and acclimate fully before performing at their best.

MARGARET LEE also throws rich dark colors. The best to date is JACK ATTACK (Taylor '94), a tall imposing purple bitone with a satin sheen and the deepest ruffling yet in the dark-toned varieties. A bold ANN CHOWNING-type bright yellow signal adds superb contrast. Great iris! Great name! JOSEPHINE SHANKS (Taylor '93) is similar to DANCING VOGUE in basic color, but is more of a mallow pink (like Raabe's GERRY MARSTELLAR), with a flatter, rounder appearance and more of a halo (in silver). The yellow signals form on all six petals, creating a star effect. Substance is thick, and it has a leathery to waxy texture. It is another one of those Louisianas that will be difficult to judge, because it gracefully transforms its color as the flower expands and ages.

The mottled, marbling effect (especially in the standards) is becoming a trademark of many of the MARGARET LEE progeny. Some like it; others find it to be a defect. MARBLE CAKE (Taylor '94) shows this pattern the greatest of any variety released thusfar. Huge flowers are exhibited with cream standards, heavily and irregularly marbled in pink and deep purple. Falls are almost solid violet-purple, with lighter mauve mottling. Taylor has taken an unusual pattern and capitalized upon it and enhanced it, as Allan Ensminger has done with the broken pattern "splish-splash" in the bearded.

Just when you think we've reached the ultimate in sheer beauty, along comes Taylor with PAMELA HART ('94). All-in-all, this is perhaps the finest mid-yellow released by John to date. In addition

to the impeccable form, deep ruffling, and carved wax texture, the plant habits and floriferousness are commendable. It is pure elegance! In white tones, the heavily ruffled creamy white, **RACHEL'S REQUEST** (Taylor '94) vies for equal attention in lighter tones. Broad and sophisticated, it was slow to acclimate, but seems to be improving each year it is grown here. Perhaps the prize for the most deeply ruffled iris should go to **SHY ROYAL** (Taylor '95). A more subtle version of its parent, **MARGARET LEE**, it has muted pink-lavender standards and dusky rose to magenta falls, topped off with creamy styles blushed in pink. Too soft to be flamboyant, but let's try "luxurious". The ruffles are so deeply embedded they are channeled.

Last but not least a strong contender to **OBVIOUS HEIR** for most beautiful of all is **SPANISH BALLETT** (Taylor '93), an extremely heavily ruffled pure white. Whereas **OBVIOUS HEIR**'s ruffling is tight and close (as if crocheted into the flower), **SPANISH BALLETT** has the "bubble ruffling" that Joe Ghio made so famous in the tall bearded. Shorter of stature, but not short of personality, either a flower has it or it doesn't. Personality is a subjective trait, but on varieties such as **SPANISH BALLETT**, anyone who exclaims, "Oh, just another white!" must surely, simply, have no taste! **CLASSICS**: **ACADIAN WHITE** (Arny '76), **LA PEROUSE** (Raabe '76), **SCAMP** (Arny '73), **SHRIMP CREOLE** (Ghio '75), **THIS I LOVE** (Chowning '76). ♪



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Design Corner

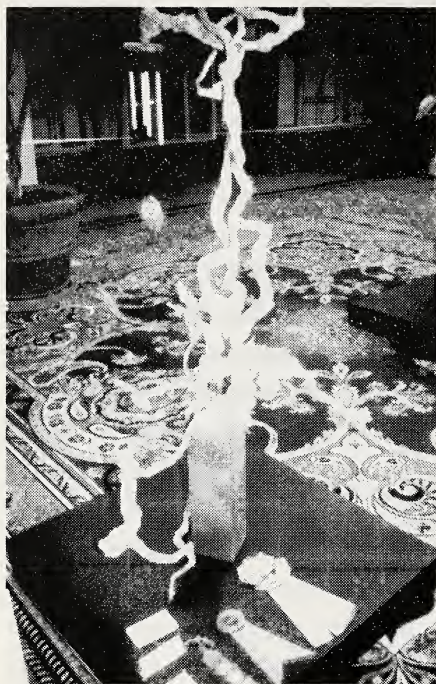
Backgrounds and Accessories

by Carolyn Hawkins

THERE WAS NO DESIGN CORNER ARTICLE IN THE JULY issue, and I apologize for missing the deadline. The AIS Convention in Sacramento and some personal commitments kept me from "doing my job". By the way, the convention in Sacramento was great, and a new procedure was used with the Judges' Training sessions. They did not compete with each other; they were scheduled so a person could go to all three sessions. It was great! Thank you Glenn Corlew!

The Judges' Training session on Design was my assignment in Sacramento and I prepared a few designs and asked Barbara Gillum from Sacramento to provide some as well. Since she lives close to Sacramento I also asked her to bring backgrounds to use. Once again I want to point out that without a background the designs fade into whatever is behind the design. Please consider using backgrounds when staging a design in a flower show. Of course, check the schedule and make sure it will be OK. A simple project board from an office supply store will suffice or it can be a plywood structure with props to hold it up and covered with cloth. The project boards are corrugated cardboard with two sides that open up to create a niche effect (the sides are only about 12" wide). This costs about \$5 and comes in white or black. The other alternative to the project board and the plywood background is the foam core board with wedges taped on in the back to help it stand up. It is light weight, comes in white and colors or can be covered (it does cost more).

Picture No. 1 shows one of the designs staged at the 1992 AIS Convention in Atlanta. It is a line design using very interesting and rhythmic wood and won the AIS Best in Show and Creativity ribbons (it was done by Hallie Brown of Stone Mountain, GA).



Picture 1

You can barely see the line material because of the pattern in the carpet which is in the background. The iris used in this line design are placed in the lower $\frac{1}{3}$ of the design. This illustrates exactly what happens when the background is competing and shows why staging has to be done carefully to avoid this. (The carpet WAS beautiful and very colorful)

The remaining pictures show line mass designs (line design with additional materials used and material to be viewed from 3 sides). These designs provide the

assistance needed to show the hazards of using accessories. Many of our flower show schedules have class names that lend themselves to interpretation of a certain theme and accessories are permitted.

Two important questions must be asked when using accessories: Will it "steal the show" and distract the viewer from the flowers *and* is it in scale to the design.

Some of the figurines we want to use are so beautiful, are quality workmanship or are shiny or in some other way distracting, and they truly are the first thing you see. And they are the thing you remember-not the flowers where the emphasis is always to be placed.

Look at the following pictures and judge whether the accessory is in scale to the design. Does it fit, as in nature, or does it appear to be a tree form for the figurine to stand by? Yes, this does take some imagination but see if you can visualize the accessory enhancing the design or detracting from it.



Picture 2



Picture 3

Picture No. 2 shows a "Valentino" type figurine. If you see this in color you will see he does not match as none of his coloration repeats any color in the design except his green sleeves. Also is he dominating the design, is he in scale? He would be interesting to use but very distracting.

Picture No. 3 has a size problem. The geese are out of scale to the overall design. Also, they are not subordinate to the design.

Picture No. 4 has brass cranes and are more in scale. They are reflective and are a possible distraction, but you be the judge.

The last picture has a mother and baby quail. They seem more in scale to the design and by turning the figurines slightly they are bigger or smaller. Or are they too small and insignificant?

The more subtle the accessories the better. If you were doing a design about sports and baseball was the class title for a flower show, one might choose white flowers (for baseballs) and maybe a miniature bat or two for line, staggering them with one higher




Picture 4



Picture 5

than the other. If you put a catcher's mitt at the bottom, you now have too much—in fact the bats may be too much. How about a piece of line material to show the direction the ball has been hit? Use your imagination and maybe you could come up with something like this. Another way to help the theme is to write a card of explanation telling what you used and why—this helps the judges to see things the way you are telling your story.

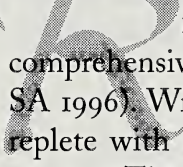
I've seen more wonderful designs ruined by too many "things" in it that distract from our lovely iris. It is a challenge to use accessories and sometimes it is better to avoid the temptation of putting too many accessories in. Consider letting the plant materials and a card of explanation tell your story. Try some of the above ideas and see if they work better for you. If you have any questions please let me know: Carolyn Hawkins, 7329 Kendel Ct., Jonesboro, GA 30236 

International News

Iris News from Britain & France

by Clarence Mahan

L'Iris, une fleur royale

 RICHARD CAYEUX HAS WRITTEN AN EXCELLENT comprehensive book on irises, *L'iris, une fleur royale* (Mauryflor SA 1996). Written in French, this is a book for gardeners. It is replete with a spectacular array of gorgeous photographs and pictures. This new book has chapters on the history of irises, use of irises in landscaping, the various types of irises, iris breeding, and the culture and cultivars of various types of irises.

Even for those who do not read French (and it is worth learning if just to be able to read this book), the wonderful photographs and reproduced paintings and drawings are worth the purchase price. To mention just a few of the scores of superb pictures, the painting *Etude de champ Chip Chap* by Joan Blondeel, on page 11 is a stunning work in purple and gold. The photograph of the great white iris SKATING PARTY (Gaulter '83) on page 41 is very lovely. The photograph on page 76 of Lynn Markham's purple and white BOO ('71) is positive proof that just because an SDB is a couple decades old is not reason to believe it is passé. I could go on and on, but I think the reader will have concluded by now that the color pictures in *L'iris une fleur royale* have left me somewhat dazzled. Among the credits for the pictures in this work, M. Cayeux expresses appreciation to Jean Peyrard, Michel Bourdillon, David Schreiner, Keith Keppel, Richard Ernst and Terry Aitken.

How do you obtain a copy of this new book? It really is quite easy. First, you must get an international money order (sold by the Post Office) or a check in French francs. The cost is 222 FF plus 135 FF for priority airmail, which I strongly recommend. That is a total of 357 FF. Then the international money order or franc check should be payable to Richard Cayeux, and sent along with your order to Cayeux, Poilly-lez-Gien, 45500, France.

Although my copy of this lovely new book was a gift with an inscription from the author, I assure you that this has in no way influenced my views on the merits of this work. It is quite excellent.

I could not close this discussion of M. Cayeux's book without sharing with you the last paragraph in the "Acknowledgments" [in French "*Remerciements*"]. It is sure to touch the hearts of those with a romantic bent. M. Cayeux says: "*Enfin, à Marie-Alix, ma femme: c'est en effet dans ses yeux que j'ai trouvé mes plus beaux Iris.*" In English: "Finally, to Marie-Alix, my wife: it is actually in your eyes that I find my most beautiful iris."

Visiting Cayeux's Iris Gardens in France

If one would like to take a trip to France so visit Cayeux's establishment at peak bloom time for irises, Richard Cayeux advises me that the time to visit is almost always from May 25 to June 3. I asked Richard which local hotels he might recommend, and he passed on the names of two establishments:

Sanotel
21, quai de Sully
45500 Gien

Hotel Anne de Beaujeu
10, Ave de Bourges
45500 Gien

Once you have seen the pictures in Richard Cayeux's new book, it is likely a trip to France to see the Cayeux irises in their native environment will be a most attractive proposition.

Irises of St Petersburg Botanical Garden

In the British Iris Society Newsletter No. 105 (Spring 1996), the following information is extracted:

"During the last forty-five years St. Petersburg Botanic Garden has become central to the study of irises in Russia and over 1,200 sorts and species were brought here. Rhizomes and seeds for amateur growers were sent from here to 187 places in the former

USSR. The irises here remain the main investigative object of Dr. Rodionenko and his pupils.

"In 1962 an exposition 'Iridarium' held in the Garden proved of great public interest, especially to painters.

"For the monograph *Genus Iris* he [Dr. Rodionenko] was awarded the Michael Foster Plaque by the BIS in 1968 and became an honorary member [of the BIS].

"The severe climate inclined Dr. Rodionenko to pay especial attention to sibericas. He organised the first Russian seed collection, including 100 sorts and species, to which a book was devoted.

"Sibericas are more resistant than bearded irises to cold and bacteria which kill the more valuable sorts of the latter in the northern regions.

"Importations of Japanese irises into the Garden during the last thirty years have not yielded positive results. The optimal method is hybridization. Selected JI hybrids were fertilised [sic] with pollen of *I. ensata* from the Vladivostock region. The series of absolutely hardy JIs created here were the first in the world. They may be grown in Scandinavia, Canada and other northern countries."

Larch Cottage

For some time, I have been fortunate to count Miss Nora Scopes among my correspondents. When our correspondence began, she was the Honorable Librarian for the British Iris Society. She has written many articles for the *Year Book*. Of course she has been a judge and dedicated breeder of irises for many years. Many of her irises have won high awards, and her beautiful and outstanding cream and yellow tall bearded iris EARLY LIGHT ('92) won the British Dykes Medal. Her home is called Larch Cottage. Her description of her garden appeared in the Spring 1996 BIS Newsletter:

"When I moved to Barnet in 1966 I spent a long time looking for suitable accommodation. As an iris grower I was determined to have a garden facing south and not too developed so I could

make my own plans. Larch Cottage satisfied all my requirements and the bungalow could be made easy to run. It was also very quiet with many large trees around it. Dominating the garden was an enormous pine, like a beneficent god. It fell, alas, in the gales of 1985, but one of its offspring is already reaching for the skies.

"The garden slopes south-west and near the bungalow is a terrace about 18 feet wide where I grow my selected TB seedlings. Below the terrace is an alpine bed and beyond that another large iris bed, then a lawn running down to a shrub border. The soil here was compacted London clay, nothing much grew and I couldn't get a fork in the ground. In the end I built the existing bed on top. I used all the humus I could find and vast quantities of cinders and ash. Holes were dug and filled with leaf compost and peat, letting me grow rhododendrons quite satisfactorily, although they need a lot of water. Every year leaves are heaped over the bed so it is now about 12 inches higher than the lawn, making a good backdrop. A *Prunes subhirtella* blooms there throughout the late autumn and spring, and a magnolia, after a sulky start, has now settled in well.

"The garden is full of variety since, in the early days I could never pass a nursery without coming out laden. My first love was paeonies...how I would love a paeony walk! My garden isn't really suitable but I grow a few of the older kinds and tree paeonies do well.

"As the garden matured, so did the surrounding trees and now only the terrace gets uninterrupted sunshine. With all these hungry roots the soil needs constant replenishing and I mulch the irises every spring with compost and bark and replant every three years. I spend a fortune on fertilizer, mostly organic. The east side of the garden has a perennial border which widens every year as the lawn shrinks. In summer a golden hop covers the fence at the back in a mantle of shining gold, and would engulf everything else but for my interference. Although PCIs do very well for me I had to move the Siberians to my allotment where they flower superbly. My latest chore is making a bed for Japanese irises.


"My garden has grown alongside me and I would like to spend more time just enjoying it, but there is always something that needs doing and the weeds do not sit and meditate." 

PHOTO BY MIKE LOWE



Roris Gardens

The commercial planting
on the way to the
Convention beds.

Stockton Gardens

PHOTO BY ROBERT PLANK



PHOTO BY LOWE

Valley Garden

"The Hat Picture"

Margaret Sutton, CA; Cathy Boyko, Canada;
Jim Kerogenes



Forest Ranch Garden

Tom Johnson sneaks up on a "median".



Gold Run Garden

Sunshine and balmy breezes greet conventioners.



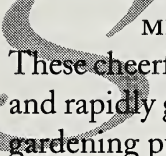
Hill Garden

Guest iris under close scrutiny

Streaking is In!

Color Breaking in Irises

by Brad Kasperek

SMILE! BE HAPPY! COLOR BREAKING IS HERE TO STAY! These cheerfully streaked and/or splashed flowers are eye catching and rapidly gaining popularity both within the AIS and with the gardening public.

Broken color, bearded iris are referred to by a myriad of other descriptive names including: pattern or patterned; variegated; splishsplash; spatter pattern; and even, #@&!! by a few of the “purists” who are still resisting them. I prefer color breaking or broken color (BC) because it’s the term used to describe this characteristic in *The World of Iris*. It’s an excellent name for this feature.

Broken color in bearded iris has been around for a long time, but only recently have a few hybridizers worked on developing breeding lines around this attribute. The old diploid iris, HONORABLE (Lemon 1840) has produced several genetic sports with broken color including KALEIDOSCOPE and JOSEPH’S COAT. In the arils and arilbreds there are many exhibiting this feature.

I suspect many hybridizers have dabbled with broken color iris, but the Sass brothers were the first ones, I’m aware of, who seriously pursued it. Much of their work was with random variability in “peppering” in plicatas like TEA APRON; however, some seedlings also showed evidence of streaking and splashing. The hybridizer who has contributed the most to today’s broken color tall bearded, border bearded, and intermediate bearded iris is Allan Enslinger.

Allan began working with them in 1968 and developed a creative breeding line which produced a long series of major improvements. Most of his introductions can be grouped into three distinctive patterns: streaks (eg. BATIK); splashes, (eg.

MARIA TORMENA and BRINDLED BEAUTY); and, swirls, (eg. PAINTED PLIC). Allan's many broken color introductions have been delighting avant-garde irisarians since the mid-70s.

But most importantly, his generously shared hybridizing experience and breeding stock are providing the inspiration and means for new hybridizers like myself. Allan's recommendation to use plicatas is invaluable. I started my line of broken color iris by crossing several of Allan's introductions to a broad selection of vigorous, modern plicatas. Many of my introductions have his MARIA TORMENA as a parent or grandparent. A cross of MARIA TORMENA to DESERT REALM produced TIGER HONEY, a breakthrough iris. In broken color tall bearded iris there's a perverse genetic link between excellent flowers and short, poorly branched stalks with low bud count. The tall, well-branched TIGER HONEY, with its 7-9 buds, breaks this genetic link and is an invaluable broken color parent.

The challenge of producing high quality broken color (BC) iris is compounded by the low yield of BC seedlings. For me, only about 10% to 15% of the seedlings exhibit color breaking from a typical cross of a BC to a plicata. It isn't yet a line for methodical line breeders who want to generally "know" what they'll get before they make a cross.

My primary long range goal is to develop, or locate, breeding stock which produces a higher percentage of BC seedlings. The more seedlings raised, the better the odds of producing additional improvements. My pursuit of "predictability" is driving my efforts to understand the genetics of BC iris. From the very beginning I've been surprised (confused) by the broad range of color types (eg. selfs, bitones, bicolors, etc.) among my seedlings. This confusion was the result of starting with an apparently erroneous assumption about BC genetics.

When my interest in hybridizing broken color iris was initially inspired by an article Allen wrote for the AIS Bulletin, I was especially impressed by his recommendation to use plicatas in BC crosses. From this bit of information, I immediately jumped to the conclusion that broken color iris were *plicatas*. In fact, for the first five years I routinely referred to them as "schizophrenic

plics". Boy, did I have it wrong! The empirical data I collected on my seedlings this year clearly shows the BCs *I'm using* are only $\frac{3}{4}$ plicata! To explain the term $\frac{3}{4}$ plicata, I can only offer the following "poor boy" description of iris genetics, and would encourage you to read Chapter 26 in *The World of Iris* for a detailed technical explanation.

The bearded iris I'm working with are tetraploids with 48 chromosomes grouped into 12 "pairs" of four. The chromosomes in each set of four are basically identical in the genetic functions they control, but the genes in one chromosome may dominate those in one or more of the others in the set. Genetic attributes which can be masked by a dominant gene are referred to as recessive. In bearded iris the plicata color pattern is recessive to the dominant "pattern" which is *no* pattern. Thus, in plicata iris all *four* chromosomes must carry the recessive plicata pattern. The iris I refer to as $\frac{3}{4}$ plicata have three recessive plicata genes and one dominate "no pattern" gene.

A few years back, I theorized I could increase the probability of BC seedlings by crossing two broken color plants. You can imagine my disappointment when these crosses produced basically the same percent of BC seedlings as a cross with only one broken color parent. The only explanation I have for these results is broken color is produced by a pairing of *two* genes rather than a single gene. Whenever this unique pair is present in a $\frac{3}{4}$ plicata seedling it'll probably show color breaking. This doesn't preclude full plicatas from having broken color, but I believe it's far more *visible* in $\frac{3}{4}$ plicatas. I suspect this pair in $\frac{3}{4}$ plicatas BCs consists of a normally dominate non-plic gene and a plic gene. For some reason, broken color is lost if this specific pair is split apart.

I've started another line of hybridizing to further investigate broken color genetics. Over the last few years I've made a series of crosses between BC and glaciatas (plic double recessive). My theory was the glaciatas would be basically noncontributing parents and thus the characteristics of the BC parent would segregate out in the seedlings. This simplistic theory doesn't hold up with the modern, more genetically "sophisticated" glaciatas, but it does appear to work at least with the plic-recessive aphylla, OSTRY WHITE (B66-2).

If I'm dealing with a unique pair of genes, then on average, $\frac{1}{2}$ of the seedlings should have broken color even if both parents have broken color. So far, all of the empirical data I've collected can be explained by this theory. In 1994, I crossed OSTRY WHITE with two BC iris, BATIK and GNUS FLASH. In 1996, I had 63 seedlings bloom from the BATIK cross and 20 from the one with GNUS FLASH. Among the seedlings there were 13 with broken color, 24 purple selfs or bitones, and 46 plicatas. The segregation of these seedlings was very close to the ratios projected by my theory of "unique pairing" in $\frac{3}{4}$ plicatas. The projected ratios are $\frac{1}{2}$ (14) broken color, $\frac{1}{3}$ (28) purple selfs or bitones, and $\frac{1}{2}$ (41) plicatas. A small sample of 83 seedlings isn't definitive, but it does support my conjecture. (I'm not a plant geneticist so if anyone has a better explanation, please let me know.)

Broken color iris appear to be more prone to genetic mutation (sporting) affecting color, or maybe they're just more obvious because of the dramatic affect. I was quite surprised when the lavender BC GNU produced the purple sport which I introduced as GNU AGAIN. Most of the time the sports just involve a change in the color of the BC, but this year I had a sport of VIOLET TIGER change to a plicata pattern without any sign of broken color. This isn't surprising if you remember most BCs carry 3 plic genes. One broken color seedling from GNUS FLASH X OSTRY WHITE even showed total genetic chaos. There were broken color flowers on two stalks, plicata blooms on a third, and a fourth had both purple bitone and BC flowers!

The exploration into the potential of broken color bearded iris is underway and gaining momentum. Today many hybridizers are working to develop or improve the selection of BC in all bearded iris classes. Just imagine a border of brightly streaked and splashed dwarfs or space agers with multicolored flounces.

How about a streaked "flat" iris?

It's only a matter of time! 

AIS Awards

1996

Dykes Memorial Medal

BEFORE THE STORM (S. Innerst) 151 votes

runners up

BUMBLEBEE DEELITE (J.& D. Norrick) 95 votes

BLUE EYED BLOND (A. Ensminger) 37 votes

Votes **John C. Wister Medal** (Tall Bearded)

50 THORNBIRD (M. Byers)

runners up

46 CONJURATION (M. Byers), 45 SUPREME SULTAN (Schreinners)

Mary Swords Debailon Medal (Louisianas)

57 PROFESSOR JIM (Mertzweiller)

runners up

50 C'EST BONNE (M. Dunn), 49 VODOO MAGIC (H. Rowlan)

Knowlton Medal (Border Bearded)

113 LENORA PEARL (H. Nichols)

runners up

64 SONJA'S SELAH (A. Ensminger), 48 MAID OF ORANGE (T. Aitken)

Williamson White Medal (Miniature Tall Bearded)

73 PETITE MONET (K. Steele)

runners up

52 STRIPED PANTS (K. Fisher), 49 ZULA (K. Fisher)

Hans & Jacob Sass Medal (Intermediate Bearded)

97 LEMON POP (L. Lauer)

runners up

54 OBLIGATO (H. Stahly), 51 MORNING SHOW (A. Ensminger)

Clarence G. White Medal (Arl — ½ or more Aril)

56 SYRIAN PRINCESS (H. Shockey)

runners up

47 KALIFA'S ROBE (B. Hager), 17 LAVENDER LEMON (L. Danielson)

Cook-Douglas Medal (Standard Dwarf Bearded)

47 PUMPIN' IRON (P. Black)

runners up

44 LITTLE SHOWOFF (E. Hall), 40 KIWI SLICES (D. Niswonger)

William Mohr Medal (¼ to less than ½ Aril)

38 SOLOMON'S GLORY (H. Nichols)

runners up

37 OMAR THE TENTMAKER (Boswell), 29 SULTAN'S JEWELRY (B. Hager)

Caparne-Welch Medal (Miniature Dwarf Bearded)

51 CINNAMON APPLES (P. Black)

runners up

31 SNUGGLES (L. Miller), 28 TINY CHERUB (B. Hager)

Eric Nies Medal (Spuria)

59 CHOCOLATE FUDGE (Niswonger)

runners up

42 COUNTESS ZEPPELIN (B. Hager)

27 SONORAN SENORITA (F. Wickenkamp)

Morgan-Wood Medal (Siberian)

96 SHAKER'S PRAYER (C. Warner)

runners up

56 CORONATION ANTHEM (R. Hollingworth)

45 HIGH STANDARDS (R. Hollingworth)

Sydney B. Mitchell Medal (CA)

43 IDYLWILD (J. Ghio)

runners up

20 FORT POINT (V. Wood), 19 SMUGGLER'S COVE (V. Wood)

J. A. Payne Medal (Japanese Iris)

Due to extended deadline for voting results will be reported in a later AIS Bulletin.

Walther Cup (Most HM votes in all categories)

FEATURE ATTRACTION (Schreiners) 171 votes

runners up

SPIRIT WORLD (K. Keppel) 168 votes

OVER IN GLORYLAND (R. Hollingworth) 153 votes

AWARD OF MERIT*Miniature Dwarf Bearded*

41 LITTLE RASCAL (J. & L. Fry) 37 BITSY BLUE (L. Miller)

runners up

34 PALE MOON RISING (J. Harper) 33 S'MORE (T. Aitken)

Miniature Tall Bearded

70 OZARK JEWEL (K. Fisher) 56 OZARK DREAM (K. Fisher)

runners up

51 VIBRANT ROSE (J. Witt) 43 LITTLE MISTY (J. & V. Craig)

Standard Dwarf Bearded

98 TWEETY BIRD (P. Black) 68 WHAT AGAIN (A. Ensminger)

97 ORANGE DAZZLER (B. Jones) 63 VERY VIOLET (B. Jones)

81 NUT RUFFLES (C. Lankow) 62 PRIVILEGED CHARACTER (Black)

runners up

54 FAVORITE ANGEL (B. Jones) 50 HOT (M. Byers)

Aril/Arilbred (½ or more)

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 30 SERAPH'S JEWEL (H. Shockey) | 28 TURKISH HEART (H. Shockey) |
| runners up | |
| 21 ZERZURA (B. Hager) | 17 BURRA SAHIB (B. Hager) |

Arilbred (¼ to less than ½)

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 26 SILENT TEARS (L. Peterson) | 25 DESERT MELODY (L. Flanagan) |
| runners up | |
| 20 ARIL REVERIE (W. Moores) | 13 ONCO G PLUS (C. Boswell) |

Intermediate Bearded

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 132 CÈE JAY (C. Lankow) | 63 PAWNEE PRINCESS (E. Jones) |
| 61 CALLING CARD (V. Messick) | |
| runners up | |
| 60 DARK WATERS (T. Aitken) | 59 WILLOW WARE (A. Ensminger) |

Louisiana

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 80 CHERRY CUP (R. Morgan) | 44 C'EST FANTASTIQUE (M. Dunn) |
| runners up | |
| 40 CAJUN COOKERY (B. Hager) | 37 JUST HELENE (J. Mertzweiller) |

Border Bearded

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 130 PETITE BALLET (K. Keppel) | 83 APRICOT FROSTY (Niswonger) |
| runners up | |
| 62 TINK (J. Durrance) | 48 MOSTEST (J. Durrance) |

Californicae

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 53 PACIFIC RIM (B. Jones) | 20 CHIEF SEQUOIA (J. Weiler) |
| runners up | |
| 14 FAULT ZONE (J. Ghio) | 14 WESTERN BLUEBIRD (J. Weiler) |

Siberian

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 75 FROSTED CRANBERRY (A.M. Miller) | 70 MOONSILK (H. Stahly) |
| runners up | |
| 60 DEVIL'S DREAM (Schafer/Sacks) | 43 ILLINI RUBY (Varner) |

Species

- | |
|--------------------------------------|
| 81 CANDYSTRIPER (B. Warburton) |
| 79 BETWEEN THE LINES (Schafer/Sacks) |

Inter-Species

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 120 PHIL EDINGER (B. Hager) | 89 HOLDEN'S CHILD (S. Tiffney) |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|

Spuria

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 60 HIGHLINE SNOWFLAKE (E. McCown) | |
| 47 COLOR FOCUS (B.C. Jenkins) | |
| runners up | |
| 30 ORO DE SONORA (F. Wickenkamp) | |
| 24 FIXED STAR (B. Hager) | 24 TINY LOU (B.C. Jenkins) |

Tall Bearded

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 237 HELLO DARKNESS (Schreiners) | 70 CHRISTMAS (J. Gatty) |
| 155 YAQUINA BLUE (Schreiners) | 69 BERTWHISTLE (S. Innerst) |
| 132 AFTER THE STORM (S. Innerst) | 68 CARIBBEAN DREAM (Schreiners) |
| 100 BRONZETTE STAR (E. Kegerise) | 67 ALASKAN SEAS (J. McWhirter) |
| 95 MESMERIZER (M. Byers) | 67 BUSY BEING BLUE (D. Denney) |
| 94 SPEED LIMIT (L. Lauer) | 66 RIDE THE WIND (Schreiners) |
| 88 VIBRATIONS (M. Dunn) | 64 GALLANT ROGUE (B. Blyth) |
| 85 COMING UP ROSES (J. Gatty) | 64 SPELLBREAKER (Schreiners) |
| 83 CLASSIC LOOK (Schreiners) | |
| 75 TIMESCAPE (B. Hager) | runners up |
| 74 SIERRA GRANDE (Schreiners) | 63 SOCIAL EVENT (K. Keppel) |
| 71 BLACK AS NIGHT (D. Meek) | 62 CHANGE OF PACE (Schr.) |

Honorable Mention*Miniature Dwarf Bearded*

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 45 BUGSY (B. Hager) | 38 PINK BLINK (T. Aitken) |
|---------------------|---------------------------|

Standard Dwarf Bearded

- | | |
|--|--|
| 138 GEMSTAR (M. Smith) | 40 ALENE'S OTHER LOVE
(W. Dean) |
| 98 FIRESTORM (M. Smith) | 40 LIVE COALS (O.D. Niswonger) |
| 85 CAPTIVE SUN (B. Jones) | 36 AUTUMN MAPLE (J. Weiler) |
| 77 MORNING'S BLUSH (E. Jones) | 35 BALLET LESSON (O.D. Nisw.) |
| 63 IRISH MOSS (B. Jones) | 34 PLUM LUCKY (C. Lankow) |
| 56 ADVANCE DESIGN (B. Jones) | 34 QUOTE (J. Gatty) |
| 46 VAVOOM (A. Ensminger) | 33 CREAM AND PEACHES
(O.D. Niswonger) |
| 42 PEACH PETAL PIE
(O.D. Niswonger) | 33 MOTTO (J. Gatty) |
| 42 SAMSON (T. Aitken) | |
| 42 SEA MONSTER (L. Miller) | |

Intermediate Bearded

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 60 FIREBUG (J. Gatty) | 37 ROYAL GOSSIP (H. Nichols) |
| 57 AURORA'S BLUSH (A&D Willott) | 36 CARRIWITCHED (S. Innerst) |
| 56 BLAST (B. Hager) | 35 FROTHINGSLOSH (S. Innerst) |
| 38 LITTLE MERMAID (T. Magee) | 35 NEON TROLL (H. Nichols) |

Border Bearded

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 115 BABOON BOTTOM (B. Kasperek) | 53 LEMON UP (T. Magee) |
| 83 LOW SPIRITS (K. Keppel) | 42 ONE LITTLE PINKIE (J. Durrance) |
| 53 ENSIGN (Tankesley-Clark) | 42 VERY VARIED (A. Ensminger) |

Miniature Tall Bearded

- 81 ROBIN GOODFELLOW (C. Mahan) 49 SNICKERDOODLE (O. Wulf)

Arilbred (¼ to less than ½)

- 15 ALADDIN'S TREASURE (D. Pinegar) 12 DREAM CATCHER (S. McAllister)

Aril/Arilbred (½ or more)

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 33 SHEBA'S JEWEL (H. Shockey) | 13 BRIDESMAID'S APPAREL |
| 29 DESERT FURY (H. Shockey) | (L. Danielson) |
| 26 ATTEN (H. Shockey) | 12 TURKISH TATOO (J. Rich) |
| 17 ENGRAVED INVITATION | 11 RED SANDS (H. Shockey) |
| (S. McAllister) | |
| 16 BLACKBEARD'S GHOST | |
| (S. McAllister) | |

Tall Bearded

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 171 FEATURE ATTRACTION | 45 SWING AND SWAY (V. Messick) |
| (Schreiners) | 44 RAIN MAN (J. Meek) |
| 168 SPIRIT WORLD (K. Keppel) | 43 BUBBLING ALONG (J. Ghio) |
| 132 TIGER HONEY (B. Kasperek) | 43 JOHN KEARNEY (S. Innerst) |
| 121 DELTA BLUES (Schreiners) | 43 LIGHTNING STREAK (J. Gibson) |
| 105 MIND READER (K. Keppel) | 43 STRICTLY BALLROOM (R. Lauer) |
| 103 DEGAS DANCER (Schreiners) | 42 BITTERSWEET JOY (L. Miller) |
| 101 GYPSY ROMANCE (Schreiners) | 42 DIDDLER (H. Nichols) |
| 86 OVERJOYED (J. Gatty) | 42 ICED TEA (R. Lauer) |
| 83 CHEATING HEART (K. Keppel) | 41 KNOCK 'EM DEAD (R. Ernst) |
| 79 GNU (B. Kasperek) | 41 RAVEN'S QUOTE (R. Ernst) |
| 73 CHAMPAGNE WALTZ (Schreiners) | 40 AVALON SUNSET (Schreiners) |
| 73 PAINT IT BLACK (Schreiners) | 40 COUNTRY GENTLEMAN |
| 71 ABBEY ROAD (D. Silverberg) | (L. Bellagamba) |
| 63 ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND | 39 SKY BLUE PINK (O.D. Niswonger) |
| (L. Gaultier) | 38 AEGEAN STORM (H. Nichols) |
| 63 LADY JULIET (H. Nichols) | 38 BIRTHDAY GREETINGS (J. Ghio) |
| 60 GNU AGAIN (B. Kasperek) | 38 CHEROKEE NATION |
| 59 THRILLSEEKER (R. Ernst) | (J. Hedgecock) |
| 57 EPICENTER (J. Ghio) | 38 DANCE HALL DOLLY |
| 56 MANAGUA (J. Ghio) | (Maryott's Garden) |
| 55 CASCADE SPRINGS (Schreiners) | 38 LONESOME DOVE (F. Kerr) |
| 52 FINALIST (J. Gatty) | 38 MELTED BUTTER (C. Fan) |
| 52 MAGIC SHOW (K. Keppel) | 38 O.K. CORRAL (P. Black) |
| 50 BALTIC STAR (H. Stahly) | 38 PRIVATE RESERVE (T. Aitken) |
| 49 GNU BLUES (B. Kasperek) | 38 SUNCATCHER (A. Ensminger) |
| 47 CAPTAIN'S JOY (Schreiners) | 38 SUNNY BUBBLES |
| 47 JAZZED UP (Schreiners) | (Maryott's Garden) |
| 46 NAVY BLUES (R. Dunn) | 37 RAINBOW GODDESS (R. Ernst) |
| 46 PROGRESSIVE ATTITUDE | 37 RARE OCCASION (J. Gatty) |
| (S. Innerst) | 37 TOTAL RECALL (B. Hager) |

- 36 BELLS ARE RINGING
(J. McWhirter)
- 36 DAWN OF CHANGE (R. Ernst)
- 36 OSAKA (J. Ghio)
- 36 STARLIGHT EXPRESS
(Schreiners)
- 35 AWAKENING (D. Meek)
- 35 BIG BIRD (T. Magee)
- 35 BOY NEXT DOOR (P. Black)
- 35 CABOT COVE (R. Lauer)
- 35 CARNIVAL SONG (Schreiners)
- 34 BOLD LOOK (Schreiners)
- 34 CANNONBALL (Schreiners)
- 34 HOLLYWOOD AND VINE
(McWhirter)
- 34 JE T'AIME (L. Gartman)
- 32 WINNER TAKE ALL (R. Ernst)
- 34 PINK CHARMING (J. Ghio)
- 34 ROSALIE FIGGE (J. McNew)
- 34 TEXAS GLORY (H. Nichols)
- 33 BOXWINK'S GOLDEN DREAM
(W. Steinhauer)
- 33 BRINDLED BEAUTY
(A. Ensminger)
- 33 CITY OF PARIS (J. McWhirter)
- 33 CUTTING EDGE (J. Ghio)
- 33 MADAME BOVARY (L. Lauer)
- 33 MUCH OBLIGED (B. Hager)
- 33 NIGHT FIRES (S. Innerst)
- 32 AFTER THE BALL (B. Hager)
- 32 BALCH SPRINGS (H. Nichols)
- 32 FANCY STITCHES (J. Burch)
- 32 GUADALUPE (Maryott's Garden)
- 32 SOLOIST (R. Ernst)

Siberian

- 153 OVER IN GLORYLAND (R. Hollingworth)
- 39 FAIRY FINGERS (A.& D. Willott)
- 36 HARPSWELL CHANTEUSE (C. McEwen)
- 36 HARPSWELL SNOWBURST (C. McEwen)
- 36 RILL (L. Bellagamba)

Spuria

- 43 SONORAN SUNSET
(F. Wickenkamp)
- 43 ZULU CHIEF (B.C. Jenkins)
- 29 SONORAN SKIES (F. Wickenkamp)
- 21 INFINI (G. Corlew)
- 20 COPPER TRIDENT (B. Hager)

Louisiana

- 42 GESHIA EYES (C. Arny)
- 40 KELLEY'S CHOICE (R. Morgan)
- 31 CAJUN SUNRISE (J. Mertzweiller)
- 31 PROFESSOR MARTA MARIE
(J. Mertzweiller)
- 27 AUNT SHIRLEY (J. Mertzweiller)
- 26 FAR AND AWAY (M. Dunn)
- 23 VODOO QUEEN (H. Rowlan)

Californicae

- 26 PINK CUPID (V. Wood)
- 13 JEAN ERICKSON (C. Rigby)
- 12 MANTRA (J. Ghio)
- 12 SEABRIGHT COVE (J. Ghio)
- 12 WILDER THAN EVER (J. Ghio)

Species

- 19 MAR JAN (H. Bishop)
- 16 MARVELL GOLD (J. Waddick)

Inter-Species

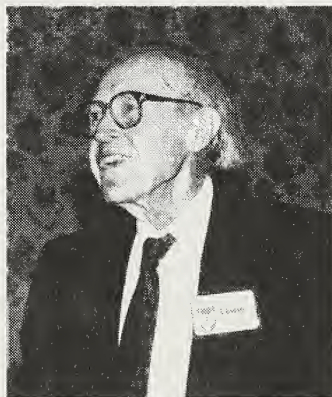
- 21 PARTY PALEFACE (L. Reid)
- 17 DIMITY BUTTERFLY (L. Reid)



1995 Median Medal winners gather for a special occasion. (L-R) Paul Lankow, Karen Houston, Perry Dyer, George Lankow, Allan Ensinger, Andi Sward, and Terry Aitken (Standing in for Ken Fisher)



Hooker Nichols wins '95 Walther Cup for BOOGIE WOOGIE



Lewis Lawyer wins '95 Sidney B. Mitchell medal for SIERRA DELL (P.C.I.)



Anna Mae Miller wins '95 Morgan Wood Medal for AQUA WHISPERS



Irene Shockey accepts '95 C.G.White Medal for her late husband, Howard, for PERSIAN PADISHAH

Contributions

To The American Iris Society

February 19, 1996 - July 22, 1996

Contributions in Memory of:

Joe Barrows (OK)

Kathy Poore (OK)

Richard Faim (OK)

Rilla M. Hickerson (OK)

Harold Black (OK)

Kathy Poore (OK)

Lyle E. Fort (WA)

Dorothy E. Guild (WA)

Mary Hill Blackwell (NJ)

Garden State Iris Society (NJ)

Wayne Lee Gossett (OK)

Kathy Poore (OK)

Oleta Blevins (TX)

Fort Worth Iris Society (TX)

Maynard Harp (MD)

** AIS Region 4 (MD, NC, VA, WV)

Jessie Cole (KS)

* Greater Kansas City Iris Society

Bertha Katocs (PA)

Pittsburg Iris & Daylily Society

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* Greater Kansas City Iris Society

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Opal L. Brown (OR)

Delpha Downing (TX)

North Plains Iris Society (TX)

Rilla M. Hickerson (OK)

Gregory & Linda Lack (TX)

Perry Parrish (OK)

Kathy Poore (OK)

Mary Louise Dunderman (OH)

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Kathy Poore (OK)

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Fred & Aline Smith (OK)

Olive & George Waters (CA)

Lea County Iris Society (NM)

Oklahoma Iris Society (OK)

South Plains Iris Society (TX)

Southwest Oklahoma Iris Society

Tulsa Area Iris Society (OK)

Virginia Epperson (NC)

* AIS Region 4 (MD, NC, VA, WV)

Fredricksburg-Richmond

Chapter, A.I.S. (VA)

Georgia Maxim (CA)
 Mr. & Mrs. Blake Bevill (CA)
 Carolyn & David Hoyum (CA)
 Cascade Wonderland Iris Society (CA)

Fredrick McAlicee (MA)
 Garden State Iris Society (NJ)

James P. McWhirter (CA)
 **** Winifred Conklin (CA)
 Kathy Poore (OK)

Veda Lorene Mullin (OK)
 Rilla M. Hickerson (OK)
 Perry Parrish (OK)
 Kathy Poore (OK)
 Olive & George Waters (CA)
 South Plains Iris Society (TX)

Cleo Palmer (OK)
 Paul W. Gossett (OK)
 Rilla M. Hickerson (OK)
 Kathy Poore (OK)
 Oklahoma Iris Society

William M. (Don) Rhodes (OK)
 Rilla M. Hickerson (OK)
 Kathy Poore (OK)

Winifred Ross (OK)
 Kathy Poore (OK)

Lillian Lee Shelton (OK)
 Kathy Poore (OK)

Earl Simpson (TX)
 North Plains Iris Society (TX)

Howard Shockey (NM)
 Opal L. Brown (OR)
 Kathy Poore (OK)
 Olive & George Waters (CA)
 Albuquerque Iris Guild (NM)
 Pecos Valley Iris Society (NM)

George Shoop (OR)
 Dorothy E. Guild (WA)

Forrest Townsend (MO)
 * Greater Kansas City Iris Society

Bee Warburton (MA)
 Dorothy E. Guild (WA)
 Rilla M. Hickerson (OK)
 ** Lynn & Peter Markham (MS)
 Kathy Poore (OK)
 Olive & George Waters (CA)

Ben Watson (NJ)
 Garden State Iris Society (NJ)

Rick Wyss (MO)
 * Greater Kansas City Iris Society

Nadine Yunkers (WI)
 Fond du Lac Iris Society (WI)

Gifts:

In honor of Virginia Burton (SC)
 * Summerville Iris Society (SC)

In honor of Paul Gossett (OK)
 Rilla Hickerson (OK)

In honor of Sara Marley (MD)
 Chesapeake & Potomac Iris Society

In honor of Ronald Mullin (OK)
 Paul W. Gossett (OK)
 Rilla M. Hickerson (OK)

In honor of Dr. Kevin Vaughn (MS)
 **** Andy, Guy & Deborah
 Wheeler (MA)

In honor of Phil Williams (TN)
 Rilla M. Hickerson (OK)

Youth Achievement Award Fund

**** AIS Region 18 Iris Society (NJ)

**** Pony Express Iris Society (TN)

AIS Research and Scholarship Fund

** The New Mexico Iris Society (NM)

AIS Library Fund

* Historic Iris Preservation Society

* AIS Library Fund

** Research and Scholarship Fund

*** Fund for color in the AIS Bulletin

**** Clarke Cosgrove Youth Achievement Award Fund

How Can You Make a Contribution or Memorial Gift?

Checks should be made payable to the American Iris Society or the American Iris Society Foundation. Donations are tax deductible. When sending a memorial gift, please include name and address of next-of-kin, so that a card of acknowledgment may be sent. Send to:

American Iris Society
 Jeanne Plank, Secretary
 8426 Vine Valley Dr
 Sun Valley, CA 91352-3656

or

AIS Foundation
 Richard Pettijohn, Treasurer
 122 S 39th #604
 Omaha, NE 68131

Index

of Advertisers

AIS 1997 Calendars	Page 17
Bois d' Arc Gardens	Page 8
Iris Pond	Page 46
O.D.A. Jewelry Designers	Page 62

Minutes

of the Board of Directors Meeting

Hyatt Regency
Sacramento, CA

April 24-25, 1996

President Dave Niswonger called to order the regular spring meeting of the Board of Directors of The American Iris Society at 1:15 p.m., April 24, 1996. Present at the various sessions were President Niswonger; Immediate Past President Claire Barr; 1st Vice President Mahan; 2nd Vice President Stahly; Secretary J. Plank; Treasurer Nichols; Editor Aitken; Registrar Keppel; Membership Secretary Harlow; Recording Secretary B. Burch; Publications Sales Director Gifford; Legal Advisor R. Plank; Directors Corlew, Gristwood, Harder, Miller, Pope, Waters, Wilhoit, and Witt; RVP Representative M. Smith (Region 13); Foundation Liaison Pettijohn; Committee Chairmen M. Lowe, Jean Morris, M. Snyder; Advertising Editor Erickson; RVPs Guest (2), A. Lowe (4), Sutton (14), Rinehart (15), Griner (19), Reuter (21), Bergamo (23), J. Burch (24); Assistant/Substitute RVPs Koza (8), Meyer (11); Section Representatives Goodnight (HIPS), Jim Morris (MIS), Abrego (Spuria); Guests J. and L. Doucette (1); M. Duvall (8), C. Gabrysiak, B. Maryott, M. Sutton, R. Tasco (14); G. Snyder (15); B. Alexander (17); R. Probst (18); K. Lack, R. Simmons (22); D. Gordon, B. Figge, S. Sluizer (23).

In his opening remarks, President Niswonger invited and encouraged all present to participate in discussions, with the reminder that only Board members may vote.

The minutes of the fall 1995 Board meeting in Oklahoma City, OK, printed in AIS Bulletin #300 were approved.

Niswonger reported that interim Board action included the appointment of Jerry Gifford as Publication Sales Director; the appointment of Evelyn Jones (Chairman), Clarence Mahan, Larry Harder, Tom Abrego, and Anne Lowe to the Library Standing Committee; the appointment of Mike Lowe (Chairman) and Michelle Snyder to the Insurance Standing Committee; and the appointment of Roger Mazur to draw up guidelines for Board review for filming famous iris people.

The President has received correspondence requesting that cultivars on the AIS calendar be identified and that more beardless irises be featured. He has received proposals that a *Rare Iris Study Center* be established, that Regions 7 and 24 be merged, that a Millennium Check List be published. He reported that the On line Internet Committee has been busy, and that progress has been made on a new angle for scholarships.

Niswonger announced that permission was granted for the use of a map found in *The World of Irises* so long as AIS was credited as the source. He also informed the group that Sergey Loktev, President of the Central Iris Society from Moscow, is attending the convention. All were encouraged to attend a meeting being held to discuss organization of a World Iris Association.

Secretary Plank gave a brief summary of the activities involving her office. She emphasized that gifts and memorials sent to either the AIS Foundation or the AIS Secretary's office should include the name and address of the next of kin.

Editor Aitken reported on quotes for producing the Bulletin. Quotes range from \$55,000 to \$66,000 annually; these are comparable to the Bulletin's actual cost for recent years. After a lengthy discussion pertaining to the quality and quantity of pictures, size of bulletin, paper weight, transportation, the Board agreed that a strong quality publication is required. The President recommended that a decision on these items be postponed until the Treasurer's

report is received.

Aitken also reported that the cost of putting AIS on the World Wide Web is about \$500. The purpose of this is to promote membership in AIS. This will be discussed later.

Advertising Editor Erickson stated that about \$8,530 in income has been received from Bulletin ads this year. She requested a policy to be used as guidance in refusing ads. There is also a need for consistency for receiving payment for ads: billing vs. paying in advance.

Registrar Keppel informed the Board that the cost of printing the 1995 R&I increased. He reported that questions have arisen about the eligibility of a small number of irises that have a delayed registration. Mahan moved that when an iris is in commerce, but with a delayed registration, the date of introduction is the determining factor for eligibility for AIS awards. Motion carried.

After a twenty-minute break, Publications Sales Director Gifford provided an inventory of AIS publications and related items on hand and Paul Gossett's report. The cost of the move of the inventory from Oklahoma to Tennessee was \$1,000.52. There are no more color charts in the inventory; he endorsed comments made by Secretary Plank in her report that color fans are very expensive, demand is small, and fan inventory ties up funds that could be used elsewhere. Information about fan availability will be provided by Gifford on the Bulletin's sales page. There are 740 calendars on hand. A number of items were sent to the convention for sale, including calendars. Gifford suggested that Bulletin ads be used to promote items in the inventory.

Affiliates Chairman Pope distributed copies of the list of 166 approved affiliates for 1996. Pope expressed appreciation to President Niswonger for his help.

Awards Chairman Wilhoit stated that 759 awards ballots were distributed to Garden, Master, and Emeritus Judges in March. She expressed the need for clarification of the placement of Sino-Siberians on the ballot. Registrar Keppel provided instructions that the registrant determines placement of Sino-Siberians on the ballot. The Board will be informed and SIGNA may provide assistance if there are future problems.

Exhibitions Chairman Gristwood reported the approval of 174 show schedules for 1996. She reminded the Board that her nine-year term as Director expires this year, and she will be retiring as Exhibitions Chairman this year.

AIS Historian Harder stated that the function of the library and the historical committee differ and that he should still receive all current material. Marky Smith moved that all current publications be sent to both the library and the historian. Motion carried. Harder requested that affiliates keep sufficient histories of their own groups. Affiliates Chairman Pope and RVPs will make this request known.

Mike Lowe, Insurance Committee Chairman, welcomed Michelle Snyder, an insurance professional, who will serve as co-chair on the committee with him. The contact person for insurance is Ruth Anne Pattangall, Rodman Insurance Agency, (617) 527-3000.

Training at the convention will be in three separate time frames in response to requests and Board approval, according to Judges and Judges' Training Chairman Corlew. He clarified the Board policy regarding tests. Tests must be completed by all persons receiving credit for judges' training.

Secretary Plank read the Library Report from Chairman Evelyn Jones. The committee is working weekly, and material is being filed according to standard library procedures. A vote of appreciation was extended and the committee was praised for its efforts.

Membership Contest Chairman Miller reported a lack of interest in the contest. She expects more participation and better understanding when contest rules are published in the October Bulletin. Possibly, the internet may be utilized to increase interest in AIS and the membership contest.

Policy Committee Chairman Lowe distributed an update of the AIS Policy Index. Lowe stressed that policy documents should be passed to job successors.

Public Relations Chairman Waters updated the Board on activities and projects being handled by her office. She has obtained a couple to ship the new display screen, which will be obtained for \$694, for the Northeast. She is obtaining 1997 calendar costs, which will be discussed later. Waters and Aitken will prepare an ad for the anniversary poster for the Bulletin.

The meeting recessed at 5:05 p.m. and re-convened at 7:21 a.m., April 25, 1996.

Membership Secretary Harlow reviewed her written report mailed to Board members prior to the meeting. The AIS membership stands at 8,262. Region 14 continues to lead with 793 members; Region 4 is still a strong second with 678; Region 18 with 629 is third, and Region 6 with 607 is fourth. Only two letters of protest of higher dues were received. Fifty percent of the 505 members lost were one-year members. The RVPs were reminded that second notices are no longer sent. Implementing the change from twice a year to calendar year membership dues will be a challenge. Other items of discussion included:

Color Invitations to Join AIS are in short supply. Reprinting Invitations to Join will be discussed at the fall meeting.

The RVP Handbook is outdated and can only be updated by authorization of the Board. Jeanne Plank made a motion authorizing Marilyn Harlow to update the RVP Handbook. Motion carried.

The current AIS membership list is outdated. Following a discussion, President Niswonger requested that Harlow and Aitken place a query in the Bulletin, soliciting members' feelings about publishing their telephone numbers in an AIS directory. Action was deferred on printing a new list.

Treasurer Nichols distributed copies of the interim financial report. Nichols called attention to several items of importance:

Cash in the bank as of March 31, 1996, was \$144,467, which includes the Life Membership Fund, that is no longer in a separate reserve account and has been borrowed against for operating expenses.

There was a savings of 50 percent by eliminating personalization on logo stationery provided to RVP's, directors, and committee chairmen.

Handling of section dues has been improved.

Income is 22 percent above the budget plan; expenses are 23-24 percent above budget projections.

A 30-day, 5 percent \$100,000 CD, has been purchased.

The Bulletin has cost about \$44,000 for two issues this year. There are two more to go. Since this expense is a great concern, it may be desirable to contract Bulletin printing.

Many ideas for improving the financial condition of AIS were discussed. Among them was a motion by Mahan, amended by Stahly, to reduce the calendar inventory by putting current stock on sale for \$2 each or 5 for \$5. Motion carried.

Nichols suggested that a mission statement for setting goals is needed. Niswonger requested that Nichols prepare an outline for a mission statement to be discussed at the fall meeting.

After a ten-minute break, the meeting resumed.

Kitty Lack reported that there are still archives items at her house. Her son, Michael Lack, has volunteered to transport the archives to the library in Silverton. Mahan made a motion to authorize \$1,200 (transportation expense) plus additional cost be paid to Mr. Lack for transporting the archives to the library. Motion carried.

A discussion followed regarding AIS archives in various locations. Stahly made a motion that the French vase that is in the possession of Dorothy Howard (Tulsa, OK) be forwarded to Silverton, along with other archives from the Lack's home. Motion carried.

The financial commitment to Silverton in support of the library was discussed. (Keppel reports that there is some conflict between the Regional Library Board and the city of

Silverton.) It was agreed that E. Jones should request funds from Secretary Plank when needed.

Registrations Committee Chairman Keppel informed the Board that new rules for naming plants have been spelled out by the International Commission for Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants. Keppel and his committee are negotiating with the group as they do not agree with all of the changes.

In the absence of Chairman Cross, Secretary Plank read the Robin report. Chairman Cross requests communication to bring her up to date with all Robin activities. Aitken stated that the July Bulletin will carry a column on Robin activities. The Board voted a note of appreciation for Cross' work in getting the Robins flying again.

Secretary Plank read Scientific Committee Chairman Fulton's report. The AIS *disease project*, with guidance from Currier McEwen, will continue this growing season and will continue to involve two plant pathologists from Cornell University. Scholarship Chairman Witt has provided Fulton with a list of proposed projects that need attention.

Scholarship Chairman Witt stated that there were 24 applicants for the scholarship this year. The committee chose Gretchen LeBuhn, PhD candidate from the University of California, Santa Barbara, who deals with twice-flowering in the desert annual *Palafoxia*. Mahan made the motion that the committee's report be accepted and award the scholarship to Ms. LeBuhn. Motion carried.

The current year's scholarship recipient, David Jones, has received the second installment of \$1,000. His successful work with magnolias has developed an improved protocol for cleaning up DNA extracted from plant tissues. A report of this work has been published.

A \$3,000 donation was provided by the Iris Society of New Mexico. The Scholarship Committee recommended that Professor Zhou Yong-hong, Sichuan Agricultural University, Ya-an, Sichuan, China, who will study Crested Iris species, be funded in the amount of \$2,000. Corlew made the motion that the committee's recommendation to fund Professor Zhou Yong-hong's research be accepted. Motion carried.

Witt suggested that the internet be a means of soliciting iris researchers interested in nominal scholarship money, which will be provided by her region and club. Niswonger requested that regions and affiliates fund some research projects and foreign expeditions in search of rare irises.

No report was provided by Mike Moller, Slides Chairman; however, he has requested that slides be sent to him.

Youth Chairman Morris announced the Youth Achievement Award Contest winners:

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1st | Kevin T. Gormley, Cedar Hill, MO | (Region 18) |
| 2nd | Erin Marie Griner, Bordentown, NJ | (Region 19) |
| 3rd | Monica Combrink, Glencoe, OK | (Region 22) |

In addition to the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement Trophy, this year's winner will receive a check for \$200, contributed by several regions, affiliates, and individuals.

AIS youth members have increased by 57 since the AIS fall meeting to a total of 238 members. Winners in the AIS Membership Contest are

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|-------------|
| 1st | Danika King, St. Clair, MO | (Region 18) |
| 2nd | Kevin Gormley, Cedar Hill, MO | (Region 18) |

Morris has made unsuccessful attempts to get correspondence and books to Issack Soosa in Tamale, Ghana. She requested permission to award the books to a deserving youth, subject to Mahan's attempts to get the material to Ghana. Corlew made the motion to grant permission to Morris to award the material to whomever she feels is deserving. Motion carried.

Foundation Liaison Pettijohn reported the results of the election held at the meeting of the Foundation's Board of Directors:

President	Richard C. Butler
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Vice President Donald R. Saxton
 Secretary-Treasurer Richard T. Pettijohn
 Trustees Robert Hollingworth, Bennett Jones, Richard T. Pettijohn

Pettijohn distributed the Foundation's financial statement.

The Ackerman Memorial Youth Essay Contest was won by Jennifer Brewer.

RVP Counselor Stahly reported on the RVP meeting held the previous night. RVPs reported on their region's youth activities. A question arose over when RVPs take office on the Board of Counselors. Mahan moved that officers elected by the RVPs for the Board of Counselors, with the exception of the Representative to the AIS Board, will take office immediately following the annual RVP meeting. Motion carried.

Newly elected to the Board of Counselors are:

Chairman Anne Lowe, (Region 4)
 Secretary Cathy Guest, (Region 2)
 Personnel Committee Karen Bergamo, (Region 23); Emma Hobbs, (Region 6)
 RVP Representative to the AIS Board George Sutton, (Region 14)

Convention Liaison Mahan provided an update to conventions scheduled. He appealed for locations for the future, especially 2001. Stahly has requested RVP assistance in locating future convention sites and the RVPs have requested convention information. Mahan will send convention booklets to them.

Section Liaison Aitken reported that, in addition to the annual conventions of SLI and SPCNI, conventions are scheduled as follows:

1998	Spuria	Phoenix, AZ	April
1999	Japanese	Portland, OR	June
2000	Japanese	Michigan	
	HIPS	New York	
	Siberian	Nebraska	
2004	Siberian		

Aitken announced that Bob Ward (SPCNI), AK, has been selected to serve on the Personnel Committee. The sections' Library Committee representative is Tom Abrego (Spuria), OR. Section representatives requested that meeting schedules at the national convention be staggered so that the same sections do not always get the early meetings. Stahly is scheduling section meetings for the 1997 convention and will contact section leaders for input.

After recessing for lunch at 11:45, the meeting reconvened at 2:15 p.m. with Reports from Special Committees.

Marky Smith expressed appreciation for those who comprise the Term Limits Committee and answered questions about the Committee's summary proposal. Smith began the report with the fact that RVP's would like a change in the length of service for AIS directors. In their opinion, the present nine-year term denies opportunity to members who would like to be of service to AIS. (It was recognized that the proposed limits will affect bylaws.) Smith felt that there should be a discussion of the items in the committee report at this time.

Pope suggested polling members.

Then President Niswonger recommended a discussion of the proposal, one item at the time, to determine the Board's feelings and a possible direction. (Straw votes were taken and are indicated in parenthesis.)

A. TERM LIMITS:

1. AIS Directors shall be eligible to serve two three-year consecutive terms. (11 for - 1 against)
2. After completing two terms, a retiring Director must be absent from the Board for one year before renomination. (16 - 0)
3. A Director may be elected to an Ex Officio position any time prior to the completion

of the fifth consecutive year of the terms described in A 1. (o for, will be considered later)

4. Retiring Ex Officio positions must observe the same hiatus of one year before nomination as a director. (16 - o)

5. A retiring Director may serve as a non-voting committee chair whenever appointed by the AIS President. (16 - o) [Acceptable by the current bylaws]

6. An appointment to complete more than 18 months of another Director's unfinished term shall be considered as serving one full term. (16 - o) [In compliance with Roberts Rules of Order]

7. These term limits shall apply following approval by the AIS Board and a timely rewrite of the bylaws. (16 - o)

8. Following approval, term limits shall apply retroactively to all Directors presently serving at the completion of their present terms. (6 - 9)

B Nominating Committee

1. The name of the Personnel Committee shall be changed to the Nominating Committee. (16 - o)

2. The AIS Board of Directors and the AIS general membership may submit names to the Committee for consideration as nominees. (16 - o)

3. Nominations for a second term as Director shall be at the discretion of the committee. Revised Nominations by the committee for a second term as Director shall be at the discretion of the committee. (16 - o)

4. The committee shall be composed of the following: Two AIS Board Members, one of whom will be the current RVP Representative to the Board; two Regional Vice Presidents; and one Section Representative.

Revised The committee shall be composed of the following: Two AIS Board Members, two Regional Vice Presidents, and one Section Representative. (14 - 2)

C DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS AND VACANCIES

1. The Nominating Committee shall provide a slate of double the number of names for every vacancy to be filled. All names shall constitute a general pool for the election.

Revised

The Nominating Committee shall provide a slate of double the number of names, if possible, for every vacancy to be filled. All names shall constitute a general pool for the election. (16 - o)

2. Resignations or vacancies must be filled from the remaining pool of names on the lists submitted by the two most recent Nominating Committees.

Revised Resignations or vacancies should be filled from the remaining pool of names on the lists submitted by the two most recent Nominating Committees as a matter of policy. (16-o)

3. Resignations or vacancies will be filled from the list by appointment by the AIS President with Board of Directors' approval.

Revised Resignations or vacancies will be filled by appointment by the AIS President with Board of Directors' approval. (16 - o)

4. When a Director is elected to an Ex Officio position, his directorship is vacated. One position, one vote. A new Director will be elected or appointed to fill the vacancy.

Revised When a Director is elected to an Ex Officio position, his directorship is vacated. A new Director will be elected or appointed to fill the vacancy. (16 - o)

5. The Second Vice President must be elected from the current Directors within the time frame set forth in A 3. Once elected, the Second Vice President will become a voting member of the Ex Officio committee, and his directorship will be vacated, as in C 4. (It was recommended that this item needs revising; Marky Smith will rework.)

D ELECTION PROCEDURE

1. Candidates should be excused from the room during Executive Committee discussion

of their qualifications.

Revised Candidates should be excused from the room during Board discussion of their qualifications. (14 - 2 abstentions)

2. Candidates eligible to vote in the election must be allowed to do so. (16 - 0)

The Board commended Marky for her work.

Bylaws changes must be approved by the entire AIS membership. President Niswonger assigned the Term Limits Committee the task of working on bylaws changes required by the committee's recommendations as well as additional changes that need to be made in the bylaws. Everett Lineberger has previously compiled a list of needed bylaws changes; he should be included on the committee to review the bylaws. Smith requested that R. Plank also be included on the committee; Niswonger appointed him to that task also.

Secretary Plank read the report from the Committee to Study Electronics Communication - Internet/E-Mail.

Committee consensus is 1) well defined goals need to be set, 2) adequate information supplied by others is already available, 3) another committee should be appointed to define goals and make a recommendation to the Board.

Even though there are individuals, commercial firms, and robins on line, Mahan feels that the AIS Board should have an official page. M. Smith suggested that pages already on the Internet be provided for the Board to view.

Mahan moved that the Executive Committee be empowered to act on getting an AIS page on the Internet and allot \$500 for the establishment and maintenance of the Web Page. Motion carried.

Niswonger appointed Terry Aitken, Roger Mazur, and Christine McKinnon to the Internet Study Committee; members will select the chairman.

Just before her term ended, Past President Barr appointed Niswonger chairman of a special committee to look into a policy regarding scientific contributions to the Bulletin. The committee report will be considered at the fall meeting.

Aitken presented estimates he had received for printing the Bulletin. The estimates were reviewed, and the Executive Committee will consider the information researched by Aitken. Action will be taken by this committee, based on Aitken's information, at a later date.

Advertising Sales Director Erickson suggested that advertising costs be raised 10 - 15 percent. Mahan moved that all ad rates be increased to 15 percent, rounded off to reasonable dollars, excluding costs for color separations. Motion carried. M. Lowe and Erickson prepared a policy with guidelines for denying advertisers space in the Bulletin. A motion was made; however, the motion was tabled until the fall meeting. In the meantime, the Executive Committee will deal with any problems that may arise.

Niswonger suggested that the Region 7 and Region 24 merger consideration be delayed until the fall meeting.

Other items on the current agenda will be considered in the fall.

Waters requested direction on the purchase of a second screen. Barr moved that a second screen be purchased for use in the Northeast. Motion carried.

The Board went into Executive Session to consider the report of the Personnel Committee.

Returning to the regular session Niswonger announced the following:

Nominees for election at the fall meeting for the Board of Directors are Mike Lowe (VA), Mike Moller (CO), Shirley Pope (ME), Riley Probst (MO).

Shirley Pope and Jean Witt were elected to serve as the Board representatives on the 1997 Personnel Committee.

Miller moved that the meeting be adjourned at 5:22 p.m. Motion carried.

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Reprint. Soft cover.

\$17.00 *Check List, 1979*

Reprint. Ten-year compilation of registrations 1970 - 1979.

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The AIS 50th Anniversary medal in antiqued bronze. Suitable for pendants, show prizes, and special awards.

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Mike Moller, Slides Committee Chairman Phone: (303) 797-8341
3750 W. Arrowhead Rd.
Littleton, CO 80123

Section Slides Available:

The various Sections of AIS also have slide sets available for rent. These feature irises of each respective group. Rental fee is \$5.00 per set, unless noted otherwise. Requests for these slide sets should be submitted as follows:

Arils and Arilbreds: Order from Clay H. Osborne, 47806 Calle Fiesta, Indio, CA 92201. Rental fee \$7.50. Check to Aril Society International.

Dwarf: Dorothy Willott, 26231 Shaker Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122-7111. Check to Dwarf Iris Society.

Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS): Contact Joan Cooper, 212 West Country Rd. C, St. Paul, MN 55113. Rental fee \$7.50. Check to HIPS.

Japanese: Order from John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053. Check to Japanese Iris Society.

Louisiana: Order from Dalton Durio, Route 7, Box 43, Opelousas, LA 70570. Check to Society for Louisiana Irises. Rental fee is \$10.00.

Medians: Contact Terry Aitken, 608 NW 119th St, Vancouver WA 98685. Check to MIS.

Rebloomers: Contact Olive Rice-Waters, 1914 Napa Ave, Berkley, CA 94707. Check to Reblooming Iris Society. Rental fee is \$7.50.

Siberians: Order from Thomas Abrego, P.O. Box 693, Newberg, OR 97132. Check to Society for Siberian Irises.

Species: Several sets available. Order from Helga Andrews, 11 Maple Ave, Sudbury MA 01776. Check to SIGNA.

Spurias: To order, contact Patricia Brooks, 102 Jefferson Lane, Ladson, SC 29456. Check to Spuria Iris Society.

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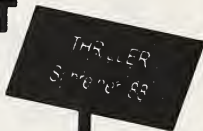
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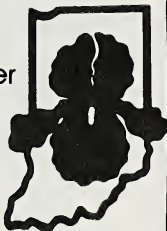
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